



Spotlight



True Religion & the Family of God at Calvary Baptist Church

The signs of spring and new life are all about us! The temperatures are slowly creeping upwards and we are increasingly shedding layers as we head out into the world! And instead of it snowing day after day, we are instead greeted by rain, mostly these days! Instead of seeing the bleak, frost hardened, barren and desolate ground stretched out interminably everywhere before us, we are all thankful that instead there are new blooms and evidence of new life emerging with each passing day! It's the same in our church community as well.

Coming out of the Easter season we have been exploring what it means to live out the new life in Christ Jesus as the family of God as a result of all that was done for us that one historic moment in the history of the world – when Christ died for our sins and made us right with God, and each other now and forever. This is the new life we have and are called and invited to live out by God as we learn as a community, and as individual and invaluable parts of the family of God in the Calvary Baptist Church family!

James chapter 1 verses 26 to 27 says this: ²⁶ *If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless.* ²⁷ *Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.*

This isn't to say that our faith is dependent on the things that we do alone – we can't earn or be more deserving of God's love because of all the good stuff that we do for Him. But that also means that we also listen for the still small of God speaking to us through our readings of His word, through our times of fellowship and our looks into the world around us. It means that we attend to the Word of God that is highlighted through the preaching and teaching we sit with, ponder and decide to act on. It also means that sometimes we decide to stop doing things as people because upon closer examination it no longer fits with the ways God is speaking to our hearts about because of the new life together in Christ Jesus that first sprang forth from the empty tomb!

As individuals, as a community of faith, and as church family in this place, we prove our faith and our intimate relationship of love with God because of the new and different ways in which we choose to participate in the ongoing work of the Kingdom of God into which God constantly invites us and seeks to involve us in sharing His message of love, grace, mercy, forgiveness and hope through the things that we do as a community! That means we as a community are always to be attending to the new signs of life and opportunity that God is bringing to mind and directing to cross our paths as a family! Let us then express and prove our true religion as a church family in this place, in every place, as we help the new life of God be operant and present in all that we do and say and are together and as members of the larger Beach community! Amen! ☺ David McCleary

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday, May 14th: **Mission Team Meeting** 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 26th:
Congregational Huddle & Pot Luck Lunch.

June 13-15: **CBOQ Assembly** Hilton Mississauga/ Meadowvale. Theme "Planted to Flourish" All are invited to attend evening worship sessions!!

Saturday, June 15:
Treasures Shared Sale 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the parking lot. Clear your closets & basements of unneeded items that others will love!

Sunday, June 22nd: **Church Picnic** at Ganaraska Woods. Fun for everyone! Arrive anytime Saturday morning. *No charge for the picnic, but those staying for dinner are asked to bring a salad.*

Finally it's Spring! After a long winter, the rains have washed the snow away, and seemingly overnight the grass has changed from brown to a bright, fresh green. The trees are budding, birds returning and the whole world is re-awakening.

Easter tells us that we are a Resurrection People – a people who continually seek renewal and restoration. The apostle Paul writes to the Church in Rome: "Perseverance builds character and character produces hope, and does not put to shame because God's love has been poured onto our hearts" *Romans 5:3-5*. So, it got me thinking, how do we "hunger and thirst for righteousness?" How do we have a "renewing of our minds?"

As Christians, we are asked to be active in our search for God, and in so doing we are promised "A harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained in it" *Hebrews 12:11*. Exercising our spiritual health includes things like intentional time of prayer, daily reading and reflection of the Bible, reading "Our Daily Bread" or other daily reflection resources.

As the body of Christ we function better when all the parts are in good shape. As a church family we need to be nurtured by God's work, encouraged by one another, and be always working to "Live to seek, know and Worship God, as we representing the redeeming love of Jesus."

So, how's your Spiritual Spring Cleaning plan coming along?

Your Mission Team continues to work towards effective planning and delivering valuable ministries which support our church family as well as our outreach mission.

I look forward to our Spring Huddle, where we will be updated by the Mission Team and once again, have the opportunity to exchange ideas for our future. As we seek God's plan for us, I pray that He will also refresh, and reawaken us as His beloved, strengthened by our faith, knowing that all things are possible, working, not in our own strength, but in faith, towards the plans He has for us.

Tina Timmermans, Moderator

New Look and Flow Bulletin: Refreshing our Worship

For some time the Worship Team has wanted to invigorate both our bulletin and how we structure our Sunday worship. Recognizing a need to provide energizing, reverent and relevant worship, we want to be open to a fresh way of executing a centuries old celebration of God's majesty.

The Worship Team has been most intentional about grouping the elements of our worship into segments that bring our family logically and seamlessly through Gathering, Approaching, Listening and Responding to God all incorporating a single theme each Sunday.

For example our Ministry Opportunities is full of important information, but isn't worship and breaks the flow – so it was moved towards the beginning of the service. Text for praise songs were placed where they were going to be sung, as well as removing inserts, to minimize having to shuffle. Rather than passively sitting through a sermon, we added a Question and Answer time to encourage church members to actively consider and request clarification on issues addressed. While we miss having our youth regularly take up the collection and have reduced the time our tellers have to count the collection, moving our offering to the responding segment seems natural. There may still be fine tuning to be done to refresh our worship, and invite comments, but we hope you like the larger print, easier to follow bulletin.

Victoria Drysdale, Worship Team

"Obviously only God can make true worship happen. He is also much more concerned about the hearts of His people than He is about the mechanics of our services. However, the more we can do in our services to keep the focus on Him, in His incomparable beauty and majesty, and off of people and practices, the more freedom the Spirit will have to guide and direct us in our worship – to the glory of the Father and the Son!"

Ron Man, Pastor of Music and Worship, Worship Resources International

Financial statements for the three months ended March 31

INCOME	2019		2018
	Actual	Budget	Actual
General Offering	\$ 16,392	\$ 16,843	\$ 16,661
Leroux	26,850	26,850	26,850
Heavenly Light & other rentals	5,765	6,150	5,550
Fundraising and other	1,547	7,475	1,690
Grant	4,000	6,500	-
TOTAL INCOME	54,554	63,818	50,751
EXPENSE			
E - Facilities Team	32,768	23,349	24,949
F - Ministry Support and Admin	1,949	2,700	1,564
G - Worship Team	378	1,150	3,321
H - Christian Education Team	830	2,000	540
I - Pastoral Care Team	498	988	75
K - Finance & Stewardship Team	2,589	2,612	2,294
L - Salaries and Benefits	37,810	37,873	26,506
TOTAL EXPENSE	76,822	70,672	59,249
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ (22,268)	\$ (6,854)	\$ (8,498)

The financial results reflect a slight decline in giving in the first quarter, a trend that we need to watch carefully. The cost sharing of youth ministry with Heavenly Light will be a) lower than expected, due to cancellation of Friday night meetings for part of the winter, and b) delayed for receipt of funds due. Grant income is as expected, with a timing issue related to a portion of a carried forward from 2018 which will be reflected in the second quarter. Expenses are higher for facilities due to ongoing issues with the boiler and minor repairs, as well as higher gas costs due to the cold winter. Other costs are on or below budget. The loss for the first three months of \$22k is of concern, and although we did budget for a deficit for the year, we need to monitor our results closely.

There are a few items in progress that the mission team will be bringing to the congregation for approval at the end of May, including an investment policy for the endowment fund. In addition Calvary has been in discussions with our tenant, Leroux Froebel Bilingual School, for a new lease arrangement.

Treasurer/Interim Treasurer

Your treasurer will be living out of the country starting this summer for an estimated period of two years. The leadership team is seeking an Interim Treasurer to take on this responsibility starting this June.

Heather Mains, Treasurer

May Birthdays

- 3 Kimberley Powell
- 10 Nancy Burton, Sara Powell
- 14 Leslie Harsell, Darlene Kelley
- 20 Shirley O'Sullivan
- 22 Doris Harsell, Doris Hunter
- 29 Watson Cambridge
- 30 David McCleary



June

- 3 Garry Kelley
- 10 Jack Vitto
- 11 Ben Frank
- 12 Victoria Drysdale, Esther McCleary
- 16 George Dewar
- 17 Fred O'Sullivan
- 23 Catherine Frank
- 27 Kent Faulkner

Ongoing Events

Sundays – **Youth Ministry Meeting**

12-2.p.m 1st & 3rd
Sunday monthly

Mondays – **Provision Time** @ Eileen Kelley's 7:30 p.m.

Tuesdays/Thursday – **Grace Pascoe Care Centre** 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Prayer Time in Sanctuary 9:30-10 a.m.

Wednesdays – **Faithful Functional Fitness** 12-1 p.m.

Bible Study in Sanctuary 6-7 p.m.

Homework Club 7-9 p.m.

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Did You Know ...

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CALVARY SPOTLIGHT

Love & Best Wishes

Our Treasurer, Heather Mains, will be moving to New Zealand this summer for two years. Her husband Ken has accepted a position working with Beca Engineering to develop skills and capacity in the area of drinking water treatment plant design for the Asia Pacific region.

Love, Prayers & Sympathy

To Heather Mains whose cousin, Leanne Pearl Bishop, passed away March 6th. A memorial service was held March 15th at Giffen-Mack Funeral Home.

To Joan Butchers, sister of Evan Butchers. Evan passed away March 8th. A celebration of Evan's life was held at Calvary March 16th.

To Bruce Forrest and family, Port Hope, whose mother Norma Forrest passed away March 19th in Cobourg, Ontario.

To the family of James Organ, who passed away Wednesday, April 24th.

Congratulations

We look forward to the launching of Rita Shelton Deverell's book, American Refugees, Turning to Canada for Freedom, on May 10th.

Update

Mary Kozak, who had been a patient at Michael Garron Hospital, is now at Toronto Rehabilitation Institute, 180 Elm Street.

Fundraising & Stewardship

"It is like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. 15 to one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey." *Matt 25:14-15*

God has blessed with an opportunity intentionally engage our community through our building. Like the servants in the parable we have been entrusted with our Masters wealth, how we utilize that gift to accomplish his kingdom here on earth is crucial.

The stewardship committee in reviewing priorities of campaign 2020, identified summer 2018, determined renovation of Clarke Hall would be our fundraising focus for the remainder 2019 going into early 2020. We believe that the renovation of Clarke Hall will make the space more accessible for community programming and rental. In addition, we are exploring the renovation of the washrooms as well as the possibility of the purchase of new sign. As such we will continue to organize and plan a number of fundraising events (i.e. music on main, treasure hunt and others) as we aim to reach our goal.

We have two choices with the blessing of this building God has given to us. We can take the treasure he has given us and like one of the servants hide it or we can like the others invest it ensuring growth and return. Our challenge as a congregation is take what God has given us and utilize it to forward His Kingdom in the beaches community.

Join us as we endeavour to take His blessing and be a blessing to others. *Howard Moriah, Fundraising*

The Main Thing • Calvary Baptist Church

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