



# The Messenger

Calvary Baptist Quarterly Newsletter • Summer 2019



## Church-wide Photo from Pentecost Sunday!



## A Word from Pastor Anne

### Gaumarjos! (Cheers): Reflections on Experiences in the Republic of Georgia

Thank you, Calvary, for supporting and praying for all who went to the Republic of Georgia in May. It is a physically beautiful country (the Caucasus mountains are breathtaking), the people are warm and generous, and the overt religious expression is refreshing. In any given church, people continuously pray through the crowds of tourists – kissing icons, sweeping floors, reciting prayers.

Georgia provided rich reflection for me on what it means to 1) live in a free country, 2) be a Baptist, 3) be a female spiritual leader, and 4) embody radical hospi-

talities.

1) Until 1991 the people of Georgia lived under someone else's rule. The Russians were just the last in a long line of conquerors and rulers that robbed Georgians of independence and the personal and economic flourishing that comes with such freedom. Two territo-



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# Worship & Music



Dr. David Farwig

As we wrap up our program year, I am struck by the extraordinary commitment and generosity of our worship community. I am moved to deepest gratitude for the countless hours everyone – the staff and congregation – puts in to make our church so supportive and serving to others as well as a place of engaging and meaningful worship.

The fabulous folks in our Calvary Choir have done amazing work in consistently offering music in our services, so the summer offers them a needed break. However, they will continue to sing in services one Sunday a month, on June 30, July 21, and August 18. Additionally, they will be singing in Betty Rae Marshall's memorial service on June 30. Thank you Calvary Choir for all you do!

I am especially pleased to see our hand bell choir, JuBellation, up and running. Not only did they play a beautiful postlude a few Sundays ago, they will also be part of Betty Rae Marshall's service on June 30 – a gesture to honor Betty Rae for her extraordinary generosity and support of our music program. JuBellation will be playing on select Sundays throughout the year. We are currently seeking players to join us and grow our choir. Although reading music is greatly helpful, if you have some prior experience with musical notation and you're feeling rusty, this could be a fun way to brush up. Feel free to contact me if you're interested.

Children's music at Calvary is extremely important, and I am committed to see and hear our

children sing in our services whenever possible. Kudos to Angela Leonard, our fabulous Children's Ministry coordinator. Angela not only works tirelessly to offer meaningful and supportive educational opportunities for our kids, but she also plays a key role in teaching them music. Having the children gather together as a choral ensemble has been my goal and Angela has been a huge help. Thank you, Angela! This past year, they have blessed us with their beautiful voices in our Christmas program, our Christmas Eve, as well as Palm Sunday and Easter services. What a joy! I look forward to the next time they sing in 2019-20.

Just to give you an update on my professional engagements, I will be heading down to Santa Fe again to sing with the Santa Fe Desert Chorale for their summer festival, July 23 - August 10. In case you might find yourself in Santa Fe during this time, please consider checking out this fabulous, fully professional choral ensemble. Go to [www.desertchorale.org](http://www.desertchorale.org) for the schedule concerts. I am one of the veteran singers of this group, and this year will mark my 23rd season.

Again, thanks to you all for your support of our music programs. Have a safe and peaceful summer!

David



Children singing "Joy in My Heart" in worship.



# Calvary Art Show

The 1st Calvary Art Show debuted on May 5th, 2019. Over twenty artists submitted their work with a range of mediums: oil, acrylic, pastels, pencil, charcoal, quilting, photography and more! **Larry Jenks** and **Brenda Goodman** coordinated the entire event. Thank you to those who helped prep, paint and do electrical work for the gallery: Ken DeHate, Bill Warren, Larry Jenks, Carl Ramay, Gordon Pelton, Walter Rowell, Bill Ponikvar, Rick Chapman, Tom Waymire, Steve Hogan, Dave Crane, Tim Bessey, and Virg Musil. The winners of the “People’s Choice Awards” were **Raquel Walker**, **Kate Gibbs**, and **Carol Willard**.





# Stewardship

## Speaking of Stewardship – June 2019

Greetings Calvary! I am writing for The Messenger as a member of the stewardship committee, which was formed in 2019 to promote yearlong education, dialogue, and engagement on the topic of stewardship. The committee is chaired by John Kron, who brings laughter and creativity to “money-talk” – a welcome model of leadership! The rest of our team is: **Todd Clough, Amy Kehew, Natalie Ralston, Susan Wirt, myself, and Pastor Anne.** I have been enriched by relationship with this group, and I hope they would all say the same. We hope that you will see us as resources and companions; folks you can turn to with questions and ideas. We are all committed to celebrating Calvary’s present and growing towards the future.

I’ll share with you a piece of the committee description, which serves as a kind of mission statement: *The Stewardship Committee plans and coordinates intergenerational efforts that encourage and inform the congregation that financial giving to Calvary is essential, both as a spiritual practice to honor God and as a necessity to fund the ministry of Calvary.* Financial giving is a **practical necessity** and a **spiritual practice**. Does one or the other of these explanations seem more familiar to you? When you go to prepare your offering, what motivation do you bring to that act?

In keeping with this past year’s church-wide theme, perhaps “yes, and” is the most authentic response. Yes, I have tithed diligently throughout my life, and tithing has been my life’s deepest lesson in generosity. Yes, I am seeking connection with God and with community through this act of giving, and I recognize that the rich sources of connection at Calvary cannot continue without the congregation’s financial backing. As I think about our conversations from stewardship committee meetings so far, I notice that we have honored this “yes, and” orientation as well.

What are current giving patterns? What are

the church’s needs? What are the potential barriers as well as motivations for different demographics? These are very practical questions, and they are also ways that we are growing in wisdom on behalf of the church. An action item that stemmed from these discussions is to include a **Did You Know?** fact or statistic to the bulletin’s weekly **Giving at a Glance**. I encourage you to look for this section at the back of the bulletin to learn more about the practical necessity of financial giving. You can grow in wisdom with us!

This leads me to the other branch of “yes, and” – giving as spiritual practice. A core theme that emerged from our committee’s stewardship retreat is that *a congregation that lives gratefully is a congregation that is in tune with stewardship.* Giving is a responsive and celebratory act! Often it is a response to gratitude, and on an even more foundational level it is a response to the recognition of God’s abundance given to us. You may have noticed the recent incorporation of a **Moment of Gratitude** into the Sunday morning worship schedule. I invite you to listen for these testimonies of gratitude and abundance. What will they move in you?

I hope this column has given you a window into a new committee at CBC, and perhaps also expanded your consciousness about stewardship. We’ll continue exploring the concept in future newsletters and other avenues, trusting that stewardship can become a year-long activity and an ongoing approach to life.

- Rev. Rachel Chang



## A Word from Pastor Alice

Hello Calvary!

I hope you are having a lovely summer. Matt and I are enjoying our summer, and we're much more prepared for Colorado weather this go-round. I'm no longer surprised when I have to bring a jacket in June, I'm prepared for those afternoon thunderstorms, and when it snows in June, I simply shrug. Look at me, acting like a Denver native!

I recently returned from muggy Birmingham, Alabama where I attended Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's General Assembly. CBF is my denominational home and the one in which I was ordained. Several folks asked where I was serving, and when I said Calvary Baptist Church of Denver, they said "we've heard of them; y'all are doing good work." I felt very proud in those moments.

Indeed, we do a lot of good work Calvary! We have two thriving worship services that are intentionally crafted to be meaningful worship spaces. Our Bootstraps & Blessings ministry meets the needs of so many people, and not every church has such a ministry. We shelter families experiencing homelessness through Family Promise. Did you know Family Promise is the **only** shelter in Denver that accept families in a



variety of expressions? Most shelters only accept the single mom model, leaving families with two parents with very limited options. Community is built at Piccolo's Restaurant at Monday Night Pub (which takes place during the academic year). And at Denver Pridefest, we are breaking down the myth that all Christians condemn homosexuality. And when we ask if they would like to receive communion, they accept with tears in their eyes because it's the first time they've been accepted at Christ's table for who they are. And, The Gathering is gradually reaching more people who need a different kind of worship than what we offer on Sunday mornings. That is just a handful of examples of the multitude of good happening here. We ARE doing good work here at Calvary.

I recently got to show my parents, Bob and Rita Horner, what Calvary is all about. They were so impressed with how welcoming everyone was (they are still raving about the cranberry orange bread they received as first time visitors). I am very proud to show my church to others. And you should be too!

-Pastor Alice



*The Gathering crowd at Bring A Friend Night.*



# Member Profile

by Pat Hagen

Ruth Shanklin's got spunk. A spry 93, Ruth greets us at the door looking beautiful in purple and gives me a big hug. Born in August of 1925 in Kansas City, Kansas, Ruth was an only child of a doctor father and teacher mother. She made up for the lack of siblings by marrying into a family of 9 children. Ruth's favorite memories from childhood are of summers spent on her grandparents' 80 acre farm outside of Cameron, Missouri, playing with the farm animals, cats and kittens and tending the chickens and garden. She met her husband Harvey during junior high but the relationship didn't develop until high school when they started going together. However, Harvey's family moved to Wyoming where Harvey started dating another girl. When Harvey returned to Kansas City, Ruth told him to "make up his mind" and he chose Ruth.

Ruth was a good student with supportive parents. Her father encouraged her to become a nurse and took her to observe two autopsies. However, Ruth stayed true to her career choice of teaching, first studying at Kansas City Junior College, then attending Kansas University, majoring in English.

During World War II, Harvey was drafted and became a paratrooper, jumping into Italy and France during the war. Upon his return from overseas, Harvey went immediately to see Ruth in Kansas City. They, her parents and grandparents then embarked on a weeklong journey to Denver. While here, Harvey and Ruth decided to get married. The party then drove to Emerson, Iowa where Harvey's father was a minister and officiated at their church wedding. Since they were just 20 years of age, Harvey and Ruth needed his father to sign the marriage certificate in Omaha. That's where they spent their honeymoon.

Still in the service, Harvey intended to become a lawyer, studying at William Jewell and Topeka University. After a year and a half side trip to live in a trailer in Laramie, Wyoming, Ruth and Harvey returned to Kansas City where Harvey started working for New York Life Insurance in the inspection department, soon becoming an agent and enjoying that career for the rest of his life. Their first son, Mark, was born there in 1952.

In 1956, the Shanklins moved to Colorado,



*Rev. Mary Hulst (left) with Ruth Shanklin.*

settling in the Denver area after trying out Loveland. In 1962, their second son Grant, was born and soon after they built the house Ruth still lives in on Kenyon Drive.

In 1963, The Shanklins life changed. When Grant was just 18 months old, Ruth was giving him a bath and he turned blue. Rushed to the hospital, Grant was diagnosed with diabetes and a life span of about 10 years. Ruth and Harvey practiced giving shots to oranges so they could learn how to give Grant multiple shots daily. Measuring food and keeping Grant healthy became Ruth's major mission with the neighbors pitching in to help.

Church played an important role in the Shanklin's family life. They joined Calvary on the first Sunday it opened its doors in 1966.

Over the years, Ruth volunteered on several committees and served as secretary to the Women

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## Anne's Reflection, continued from front page

ries are still under Russian rule, and high unemployment rates and the state-ruled religion of Orthodox Christianity (that has put power before people) – has left the country in a state of rebuilding. Georgia is still fragile economically; yet their strength and resilience is inspiring. Hope and gratitude abound. It definitely puts in perspective the many freedoms we enjoy in the U.S. – not least of which is freedom for and from religion.

2) The Baptists in Georgia worship in an orthodox style and have bishops and priests. Their Baptist roots are most clearly seen in that they seek to give a voice to all people, While the government tries to keep Jews and Muslims from building Temples and Mosques, the Peace Cathedral (Baptist church in the capital of Tbilisi) is donating part of their land so these religious minorities can worship freely. They respect their Orthodox roots in beautiful ways, while speaking out against power that prevents all people from having freedom of religious and personal expression and belief (including controversially advocating for LGBTQ rights). The stakes are high. It is not easy to not be a part of the majority governing religion. I was inspired by their boldness and wondered – how much bolder can I be in a country where I am free to be as Baptist as I want without fear of persecution?

3) St. Nino, a young woman, is credited with bringing Christianity to Georgia in the fourth century. She is revered for her visions, healing, and proclamation. Her influence permeates all the holy sites, and it is beautiful to see a woman uplifted for her spiritual gifts and testimony. It changes the religious landscape to have a female founder and it inspires me to think of the many ways we can remember “the saints” who have gone before and honor our founders.

4) Hospitality. The food and the wine were unending. The ancient wine-making tradition (qvevri wine) has a strong connection to the literal ground (dirt), and biblical images of vineyards came alive as we visited wineries and connected to others through feasting. Generosity overflowed. People are happy even as they live much more simply than we do. At their supra dinners, a series of toasts includes honoring God as well as those who have departed and those who are the future. From juicy red tomatoes to warm cheesy bread to grilled pork with green sauce – there is no shortage of food in Georgia. And Georgians always find a reason to celebrate!

There is so much more to share; please ask me or any of our pilgrims about the story of St. Nino, the beautiful landscape of the country, the qvevri wine-making process, the supra feast, the unique Geor-



gian language, the tradition of praying through icons, the cave monasteries and early communal/spiritual life, the devastating impact of Stalin, the racist-eugenics origin of the word Caucasian (and why I choose no longer to use it), the hospitality and justice-oriented ministries of the Peace Cathedral, what it was like to worship with “Baptists who have bishops,” the healing water of Borjomi, the artist Niko Pirosmani, the polyphonic music, and last but not least – the roaming dogs/pets of Georgia!



# Children's Corner



Angela Leonard,  
Children's Ministry  
Coordinator  
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In our K-5th grade classrooms we began with the story of Jesus visiting Jerusalem. This is the story we all know as Palm Sunday. The Sunday school teachers this week were Dave and Jeanine Crane. This story is based on Luke 19:29-40. The children were asked how they would shout and cheer if they saw Jesus riding a donkey in there town. Dave and Jeanine described it as something similar to a parade (but for Jesus!). Palm Sunday is celebrated because the King entered Jeru-

salem. It was the start of an incredible week. A week Jesus was first cheered, arrested, tried, condemned and crucified. When that week ended, the next day started with an even bigger celebration- the resurrection of Jesus!

April 7th: We focused on the Passover Meal, or the last Supper. Sunday school teacher Nancy Chick taught the children about what it meant when Jesus said "Remember Me." What are we able to do to remember Jesus? We discussed the point of the bread and the wine, and when they see it in church. They decorated plastic wine glasses to take home to "remember" the story of the last supper. This story is based on Luke 22:1-20.

April 14th: Sunday School teacher Becky Whitaker taught the kids about the death of Jesus. We talked about what others do to make you feel comforted when you are sad or scared, and made cards for someone special who may need some cheering up. Could you imagine how Jesus must have felt? Alone on the cross...sad and scared. We thanked Jesus for his sacrifice, that freed our sins. Jesus is incredible! This is based off Luke 23: 1-49.

April 28th: Mimi Leonard taught the children about the resurrection of Jesus. The children read through a script about the women finding and empty tomb, and created a roll away- tomb craft. We discussed things that make us excited, make us sing or dance, or even shout. This connects us to how the women must have acted when they realized Jesus had risen. Tell everyone about this wonderful news! This story is based on Luke 24: 1-12.

May 5th: Dave and Jeanine Crane taught the children about Thomas wanting to see Jesus after the resurrection. It is a good reminder that sometimes we may not always believe things if we are unable to see them. Jesus is there, and maybe we can't physically see that, but we believe. This is a wonderful story that demonstrates the power of the Lord. This story is based on John 20: 19-31.

May 12th: Diana McGahan taught the children about praising God. She brought down worship bulletins to the classroom and had the children find words about praising God. They were able to find words like "praise, or Hallelujah!" We praise Jesus a lot. The kids created pictures of trees using construction paper. The leaves/seeds around the tress represented gifts that God has given them that they can use to bless others with. We can praise Jesus always, and demonstrate our use of praise to others everyday.

Based on Acts 2:42-47;4:32-35

May 19th: Sunday School teacher Karen Folgate planned on teaching the children about being "One Church," based on 1 Corinthians 12:12-31. We missed our kids that day but figured I'd share the lesson in case you'd like to review with your families.

- What did you learn about living as the church from this story?
- What pictures did you imagine in your head as you read Paul's letter?
- What special gifts and talents do you have? How can you use these gifts in the church?

*Prayer: Lord, let us remember your work each and everyday in our lives. Let us all work together. Thank you for your hand and design of everything. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.*

Thank you to all of our wonderful teachers and volunteers that spend their Sunday mornings teaching our children about our Lord, Jesus Christ. It has been an incredible School year with all of you! Thank you for all you do!

Angela Leonard, Children's Ministry Coordinator





# A Word from Pastor Morgan

## 5th Anniversary Thank You



Calvary, it has been a memorable journey these past five years and I am so thankful to have served alongside you all. You all reminded me of the many seasons we have shared together during the wonderful reception on June 2. I was surprised and humbled by the gracious sharing from Cassie Kochman, Emily Crile, and Jenny Whitcher

– many thanks to all of you for offering such tender sentiments. I truly hope to continue to live up to each of your reflections in the years to come. To Staff Relations for their detailed thoughtfulness, remark-

able hospitality, and generous gifts of flowers and the reception thank you so much! To the congregation for all the thoughtful, generous, and endearing cards I am humbled and encouraged by your words. It has been a significant five years filled with personal growth and congregational transitions, thank you for the chance to bear witness to all of these. Prayers for the years before us.

## Camp Highlights

Calvary, thank you for all of your support for the 16 students and 4 youth leaders who went to Green Lake, WI for Quest Youth Camp the week of June 16th. Whether you participated in the burrito fundraiser, offered prayers, or spent time talking with students about what they were looking forward to or how the trip was for them you added so much to this experience. We truly could not have done this without you all! We hope you will join us for the I AM CALVARY forum on August 25th to hear students share about their experiences at Camp.



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## Ruth, continued

Deacons and as treasurer to the Ambassadors Sunday School class. Both boys also worked at the church with the maintenance staff. Most at Calvary know Ruth by the Birthday Cards she sends so faithfully. It is her amazing ministry.

Mark graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School and moved to Wyoming to become a cowboy. There he met and married Nancy who Ruth says is the daughter she never had. Mark and Nancy now live in Loveland and have a grown son and daughter who Ruth loves seeing.

Grant exceeded the doctor's prediction by living until he was 48 years old. He went on to have sev-

eral careers including ACE Hardware manager, truck driver, and a computer science teacher for the handicapped. After Harvey died in 1989, Grant remained in the family home to keep Ruth company until his death in 2011.

Ruth's philosophy of life is to give to others, which she certainly has done all of her life in a variety of ways, including writing. She says her secret to longevity is prayer and eating right. Ruth hugs us good-bye with a smile and good wishes for the day.

# Save the Date

Join us here at Calvary on September 14 from 10:00 am to 5:30 pm for a day session with the Baptist Joint Committee and Ethics Daily to discuss:



- Advocacy Engagement
- Using Your Voice On:
  - Religious Freedom
  - Media and Conversations in Public Spaces
  - Baptist History and Identity
  - How to Listen to the News Around Ethics
- Panel Discussion with BJC Executive Director, Amanda Tyler, and Ethics Daily Executive Director, Mitch Randall.



## The Spirit of the Lord is Upon Us!

On Sunday, May 5th, we signed our Covenant of Action with New Hope Baptist Church. Covenants of Action bring together Baptist churches from different racial and ethnic backgrounds to build relationships with each other and work together to create positive change in the community beyond their churches.

The New Baptist Covenant movement creates vibrant, inclusive Baptist communities, building bridges in places previously marked by division. We are called by God to champion the weak and oppressed, honor the diverse workings of the Holy Spirit and to share the love of Christ. Our work is rooted in the words of Jesus Christ found in Luke 4:18-19: “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”





# Birthday Fun!

## June Birthdays

1 - Grant Brown  
 4 - Vismaya Bachu  
 5 - Janna Scarpella- Straub  
 6 - Ashley Whitaker  
 7 - Pam Chapman  
 7 - Rhonda Magee  
 11 - Brad Berglund  
 11 - Beverly Gavel  
 12 - Lucy Crile  
 12 - Mary Jane Fox  
 13 - Wel Bile  
 13 - Katherine Pound  
 14 - Nancy Hoffmaster  
 16 - Judy Drury  
 16 - Glenn Hill  
 17 - Maya Sjoberg  
 19 - Sara Reynolds  
 20 - Judy Baumgartner  
 22 - Raquel Walker  
 23 - Duncan Hulst  
 23 - Jeremy Sieker  
 24 - Ryan Davey  
 24 - Erin Gangloff  
 24 - Les Redifer  
 25 - Ken DeHate  
 26 - Kevin Padworski  
 26 - Josiana Umuhoza  
 28 - Goy Wang

## July Birthdays

5 - Grace Kochman  
 5 - Steven Wang  
 7 - Tom Bennett  
 7 - Nyachiang Bile  
 7 - Chudier Bile  
 7 - Thurbil Bile  
 7 - Larry Davila  
 9 - Joe Blethen  
 11 - Paul Geldens  
 14 - Ramona Milton  
 15 - Steve Hulst  
 18 - Amy Kehew  
 18 - Edith Rowell  
 21 - Beth Dickinson  
 21 - Bill Warren  
 22 - Dean Grohskopf  
 22 - Gaawar Tuom  
 22 - Tom Waymire  
 27 - Anne Comstock  
 28 - Nita Brown  
 28 - Jack Hulst, Sr.  
 29 - Suzanne Allexan  
 29 - Clarence Milton  
 31 - Charlotte Million

## August Birthdays

4 - Virg Musil  
 4 - Gay Stanley  
 5 - Carm Hammon  
 5 - John Kron  
 6 - Beth Kieft

7 - Jack Hulst  
 7 - Ken Liming  
 7 - Topsy Miller  
 7 - Maddy Newhouse  
 8 - Becky Whitaker  
 10 - Lucie Cardwell  
 10 - Dorothy Fine  
 11 - Kyle Lenz  
 12 - Jordan Breitnauer  
 15 - Dave Crane  
 16 - Todd Clough  
 17 - Brenda Goodman  
 17 - Diane Newcom  
 19 - Ruth Shanklin  
 20 - Rick Chapman  
 20 - Judy Goldman  
 21 - Ann Cline  
 22 - Wayne Hamilton  
 22 - Jason Ramay  
 23 - David Ferguson  
 25 - Julia Blethen  
 25 - Harry Hammon Jahn  
 26 - Marie Dykes  
 26 - Karen Pinkham  
 27 - Bill Marshall  
 27 - Lorene Walker  
 29 - Leigh Bessey  
 29 - Sharon Murphy  
 30 - Aubrey Knight

## Vacation Bible School

July 29- August  
2nd  
9 a.m.- noon



3 Years - Fifth Grade  
\$15 per child

Register today at  
[www.calvarydenver.org](http://www.calvarydenver.org)



Calvary Baptist Church

6500 E. Girard Ave  
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## Calvary Baptist *The Messenger*

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**Church Office Hours**  
*staffed by volunteers*  
**Mon-Thurs, 9:00am - 4:30pm**  
(lunch hour, 12:30-1:30pm)

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