



The Friendly News

Calvary Baptist Church



January & February 2018



The Pastor's Corner

*You crown the year with your bounty, and your
carts overflow with abundance (Ps. 65:11)*

Happy New Year all!

God's grace can never be measured. Only by God's grace, we have been granted the privilege to take our step onto the threshold of another New Year! God has been good to us in the past year. What better way to begin 2018 but to give praise and thanks to God, and hope for a happy, healthy, and flourishing year!

We began our journey together in 2017 with prayer, and in the canopy of God's grace we continued to endeavor in faith. We encountered both joy and sorrow in the course of our communal venture, with our eyes focused on the goal set before us as the Apostle Paul powerfully portrayed in 2 Timothy 4:7, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." Some completed the race well and went to be with our Lord. And the rest of us continue the race. In the midst of sorrow and uncertainty, all of us showed strength, and resilience, and projected our best. Each one of us shouldered the responsibility with dignity, humility and gentleness. As you in faith begin the first days and weeks in January, please take a moment to remember our beloved friends who have gone on to the land beyond the river—the land of eternal peace and joy—Rev. Dr. Hazel Roper, Felix McIntosh Jr., Theda Crocker, and Evelyn Makiej. May their life and good work be an inspiration for us in the New Year. Also, take a moment to count the very many tasks, big and small, that you have done for the Lord in the church and beyond. You will be amazed at how much you contributed to the work of God. I hope you all will see, feel and understand in some ways how much your dedication is appreciated.



I know many of you were tired and at the verge of burnout, but you made every effort to balance your life physically and spiritually. God was with us in all this and led us gently all the way. The word of God says through the prophet Isaiah “For even young people tire and drop out, young folk in their prime stumble and fall. But those who wait upon God get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles. They run and don’t get tired, they walk and don’t lag behind” (Is. 40:30-31 MSG). God the everlasting One is with us and will show us the way into the future just as God’s promise came to fruition in the saints Simeon and Anna, who waited patiently and in faith to see God’s promised salvation in the baby Jesus (Lk. 2:22-40). May God’s abundant and overflowing goodness be your portion and enliven your spirit!

Let the Psalm of David #65 be a reminder to us that God will see us through in 2018.



Psalm 65

Praise awaits you, O God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled. O you who hear prayer, to you all men will come. When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions. Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple. You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas, who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength, who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations. Those living far away fear your wonders; where morning dawns and evening fades you call forth songs of joy. You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, for so you have ordained it. You drench its furrows and level its ridges; you soften it with showers and bless its crops. You crown the year with your bounty, and your carts overflow with abundance. The grasslands of the desert overflow; the hills are clothed with gladness. The meadows are covered with flocks and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing.



A Look Back on 2017

Calvary Baptist Church has celebrated many truly wonderful moments in the year 2017. We'd like to take a brief look back on just a few things we've done this joyous and prosperous year together.



Rally Day



Teens Alive Yard Sale





Roof Project Fundraiser



Car Wash Program





Bowling Night



Calvary Chicken Dinner



MCAS Preparation





Armory Park Clean Up



TeensAlive at National Night Out





AB Women's Ministries of MA Fall Women's Day





Children's Christmas Celebration



More pictures will be included in our next issue of the Friendly News!



January Birthdays

- Winnie Nyirasaba—1/1
- Cheyenne Lacey—1/2
- R Bradford Connelly—1/6
- Harry Silva—1/8
- Laurie Douillette—1/9
- Timothy So—1/11
- Nathan Pich—1/13
- Frank Crowther—1/13
- Irene Bitegetsimana—1/17
- Gail Donahue—1/25
- Janice Strong—1/27



*Happy Birthday from
all of us at Calvary!*

*Please contact the
church office if we have
missed anyone.*

February Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Prince Bitegetsimana—2/1 | George Garmon—2/21 |
| Peter Gibson—2/1 | Marcia Long—2/21 |
| Many Long—2/6 | Lensa Imsong—2/24 |
| Ounsy Kuoch Seng—2/7 | |
| Lukas Noel—2/7 | |
| Phean Sar—2/9 | |
| Peter Tellier—2/11 | |
| Janet Paton—2/13 | |



Praying for One Another

Ngabuen Nshom	Florence Mentlick
Charles Lehman	Doug Phinney
George Garmon	Carol Yeomans
Laurie Douillette	Savon Vath
Shirley Crocker	Ruth Porter
Janice Ouellette	

We continue to pray for one another in different circumstances. If you would like a prayer, please call the church office or the pastor so that we can print your name in our upcoming newsletters.





Happenings

At Calvary

- Sunday Worship: 10:45am
- Annual Meeting—January 21, 2018 with a snow date of January 28, 2018.
- New! Starting in March:
 - ⇒ Music Club every Friday night
 - ⇒ Bible Study every Wednesday
- Pastor's new office hours: Tuesday—Friday 9am to 2pm.

In The Community

AB Women's Ministries of MA Spiritual Retreat—"Finding God in the Chaos" March 2&3, 2018. March 2 Registration is 4pm. March 3 Devotions is 7:30am. Weekend Cost: (conference, registration, 3 meals, snacks, plus double occupancy room) Early Bird Registration, January 15, 2018 is \$110.00 Registration, February 10, 2018 is \$135.00. Late Registration, February 18, 2018 is \$150.00. Saturday Cost: (conference registration plus 2 meals) is \$75.00. Come share in the joy of our Lord, inspiration, music, laughter, learning, prayer and more! Contact abwmass@gmail.com for more information.

Lowell, Massachusetts Annual Winterfest—February 23-24, 2018. Located in Downtown Lowell, Winterfest weekend features everything from a carousel and free ice-skating to an all-you-can-eat chocolate festival and North Bowl soup competition. Visit www.lowellwinterfest.com for directions and activities.

Empower—Lowell Alliance and Coalition for a Better Acre leadership workshop. Workshops are Thursday evenings starting March 22. Contact Nancy Coan at 978-454-5405.



From Our Kitchen



Macaroni Tomato Soup

Warm up from all this cold weather with this easy and delicious Macaroni Tomato Soup recipe!

Ready in: 45 minutes

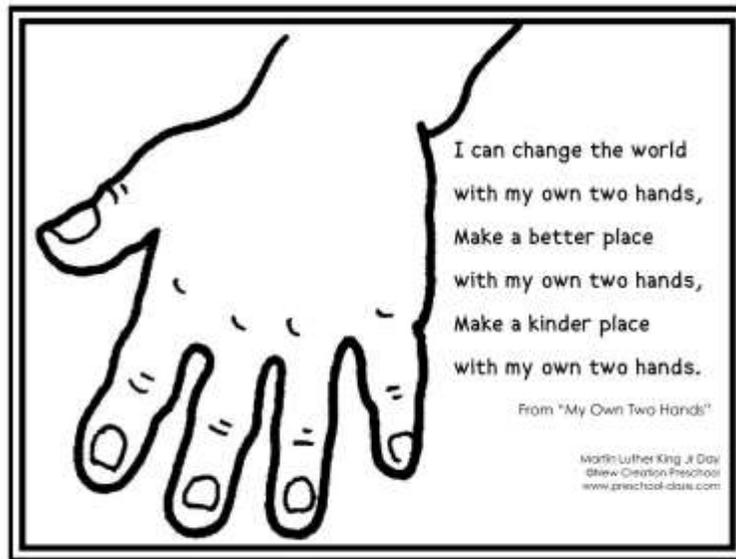
Serves: 4

Ingredients: 1/2 pound lean ground beef
1 onion, chopped
One 15 ounce can diced or stewed tomatoes
One 8 ounce can tomato sauce
1 cup elbow macaroni noodles
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
1/2 teaspoon brown sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 cup water
1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Sautee onions. Brown ground beef and drain. Place onions and browned beef in a large soup pot with lid. Add stewed tomatoes, tomato sauce, macaroni noodles, Worcestershire sauce, Italian seasoning, brown sugar, salt and water. Simmer on a low boil covered for 30 minutes until noodles are tender. Place in serving bowls and top with cheese. (Soup must be hot enough to melt the cheese.)

Note: A can of diced tomatoes may be used, but the can with the label reading “stewed” is best. Also, noodles may be cooked then added.

Recipe found on GeniusKitchen.com



Martin Luther King Jr. was a major spokesperson for nonviolent activism in the Civil Rights Movement. He is widely known for his "I Have A Dream" speech. Martin Luther King Jr. Day is celebrated on the third Monday of January each year, remembering his birthday on January 15. This year, the day falls exactly on the 15th of January, however last year in 2017 it was on the 16th of the month.



ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



- | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ash | Holy Week | Palm Branch |
| Wednesday | Holy Thursday | Forty Days |
| Sacrifice | Good Friday | Jesus |
| Almsgiving | Holy Saturday | Passover |
| Prayer | Easter | Foot Washing |
| Fasting | Palm Sunday | Resurrection |
| Lent | Purple | Love |





America for Christ Offering

Our offering for the month of January is the America for Christ Offering “Equipping Disciples”.

“For American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS), equipping disciples entails supporting and enabling highly motivated Christian disciple-makers who are delivering the Good News of Jesus Christ and producing life-saving and life-giving change in individuals and congregations across the United States and Puerto Rico.

The theme for the America for Christ (AFC) Offering 2018 is “Equipping Disciples,” informed by this biblical text: *“The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ” (Ephesians 4:11-13, NRSV).*

The America for Christ Offering (AFC) 2018 reminds us that it is in our service to the church and the community that many experience the Christ in us. We are encouraged by this year’s theme to come alongside people and build them up.”

Please visit www.abhms.org/afc for more information.





Call to Annual Meeting



Calvary Baptist Church
60 Hastings St
Lowell, Massachusetts 01851

To the Members of Calvary Baptist Church

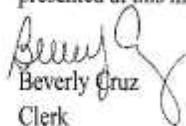
Lowell, Massachusetts

Greetings:

The members of Calvary Baptist Church are hereby notified of the annual meeting of the Church, to be held January 21, 2018 with a snow date of January 28, 2018 immediately following 10:45am Worship in the Sanctuary of the Church, located at 60 Hastings St Lowell, Massachusetts.

We will act on the following:

- Article I Reports of Church Officers, Boards and Committees
- Article II Reports of Special Committees.
- Article III Review of the Budget for 2018
(vote was taken and passed at a Special Meeting on November 19, 2017).
- Article IV Elect members to fill unfilled slots left from the special meeting of November 19, 2017.
- Article V Any other business that may properly be presented at this meeting.


Beverly Cruz
Clerk

December 28, 2017

Calvary Baptist Church

60 Hastings St, Lowell, MA 01851



Inside This Issue

<i>The Pastor's Corner</i>	2-3	<i>From Our Kitchen</i>	11
<i>A Look Back</i>	4-7	<i>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</i>	12
<i>Birthdays</i>	8	<i>On the Road to Easter</i>	13
<i>Pray for One Another</i>	9	<i>America for Christ offering</i>	14
<i>Happenings</i>	10	<i>Call to Annual Meeting</i>	15

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REACHING PEOPLE,
CHANGING LIVES

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