

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Apprenticing with Jesus . .	1
Point To Ponder	1
Diaconate Report	3
Member's Report - Julie Looper	4
Member's Report - Shawn Heij	5
Ministry Group Highlights - Coffee Break	6
Peru Mission Team Update	7
Past Events @ Calvin	8
Upcoming Events	10
Things that might be helpful	11
Wanted !	12
Just for Fun	12

APPRENTICING WITH JESUS. . .

Yes, you've already heard the term, and will for the next several weeks. Pastor Ken will be preaching on the theme of Apprenticing with Jesus by Bowing Down, Reaching Up, Reaching Out, and Reaching In.

At the risk of sounding like a broken record, I just wanted to reinforce

his sermon series. I too find the term "Apprenticing with Jesus . . ." to be a much more relevant term today than the word disciple. I look forward to hearing what Pastor Ken has to say on the various areas that Calvin has singled out as its broad vision for each and every member and regular attendee here. It is our desire that all of us Apprentice with Jesus by Bowing down, Reaching Up, Reaching Out, and Reaching In.

(Continued on page 2 - See "Apprenticing")

Apprenticing With Jesus

by...



"But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light." (1 Peter 2:9)

POINT TO PONDER

By: Pastor Ron Hosmar

Over the summer I've been pondering the issue of outreach in our Calvin community. Pondering the action, and inaction that occurs within this body. As I did so, of course, I came up with some ideas that could be utilized to further enhance our "going" out from this place to make contact with our neighbors, co-workers, and others we might meet along our life's journey.

When I returned from vacation in September, I further developed my thinking by soliciting the opinions of people within Calvin who have a similar desire to build relationships with those around them and around our church community. As I did this I came to some startling realizations that were not even connected with the issue of outreach. I should have seen them coming, but had my own blinders on as someone with a mission in mind. Having mulled these realizations over in my mind for a while, I feel they are worthy of mentioning:

1. **Calvin is quite a diverse community of faith.** We all have the same underlying desire to get to know God and get closer to him but we come at that

desire from many different vantage points. As I talked with people I discovered those that are heavily into the prayer side of life; those who are very much into the social justice side of things; those who want to go out and prayer walk our entire church neighborhood; those who wish to be hands on and volunteer in places like the Carlington Chaplaincy through their Diversity Store or the Stronghold; and, those who are simply trying to make sense of where they fit into the whole area of reaching out and building relationships with people. All of those differing areas are to be celebrated. However, I also discovered this in my research:

2. ***These differing points of view can be sources of tension because the one is not necessarily willing to listen to, respect, or dialogue with the others.***

Now this fact may not be intentional, or even desired, but it certainly began to raise itself as an underlying issue as I discussed the topic of reaching out beyond the walls of Calvin church.

These realizations startled me at first. The body of Christ is not supposed to fragment itself into just the hands, or just the feet, or just the brain, or the heart. Although all of these separate parts are important to make the

(Continued on page 3 - See "Ponder")

**Please send
any comments
about the
newsletter to
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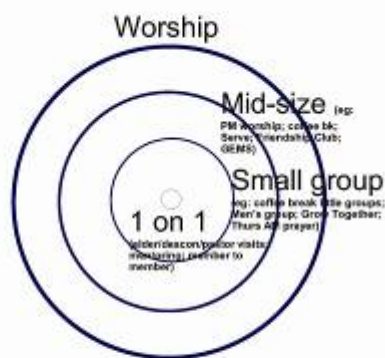
APPRENTICING CONT'D

(Continued from page 1 - "Apprenticing")

Bowing down may be the foundation of all that we do, but all are equally important in the life of the believer. We need to reach up in order to receive the filling up of our Father in Heaven, and we need to reach out because that is something that God has designed us to do. However, we also need to reach within because fellow edification is also an important part of a healthy community of faith. One is not to be emphasized at the expense of the other. When that happens we become imbalanced and our faith walk slows, moves off the beaten path, or we may become ineffective in the Kingdom.

So, how does this translate in a practical way in our daily walk with God. We'll, Pastor Ken has come up with a great diagram (not sure if it was his idea or gleaned from somewhere else) that I think will help you . (Again, not sure if we'll line up in our thinking because we haven't completely fleshed this out together, but even if we aren't, we are heading in the same direction).

The diagram below is called the wheel of Caring. On the outer rim of the wheel we have worship.



The Wheel Of Caring

This is where the bowing down and reaching up would fall into play. Worship here is on a broad scale. It could be in a sanctuary, where we come to be reenergized through prayer, praise and preaching. However, in today's day and age, things are a changing, and worship may not necessarily be limited to a sanctuary setting. It may involve a Christian Concert,

a retreat, a house church, or maybe even worship in one's own. So, let's not only leave worship on that broad scale [more on this in our next newsletter].

Reaching in can be attributed in general to the Mid-size and small group "spokes" of the wheel. They are what give the wheel it's strength and keep it centered. Here at Calvin I think we have a healthy sense of reaching in. Are we perfect at it? Absolutely not! We do have many healthy small groups, however. Be that the PM worship service, our newly formed Growing Together Groups, our youth groups, or other small groups. These all help us as a Calvin community to learn and grow from each other.

The focal point of the wheel is the most important. Without it the wheel would not function. This element may be the most important, yet, it is also the most difficult one to measure and/or monitor. The 1 on 1 element covers the reaching out portion of our Apprenticing with Jesus. Even though the diagram mentions many internal elements of 1 on 1 [elder visits, pastoral visits, member to member visits], we should be going beyond this. We certainly can reach out to each other as members of Calvin, but we are called to go out beyond our membership walls and meet the world that knows so little of God and his saving grace. The mechanics of that are a topic for another day, but the fact of the matter is that 1 on 1 can be powerful, time consuming, and very draining for you and me, yet it is at the centre of the wheel and should not be ignored.

I like the diagram, the breakdown of the different elements and how they complement our broad themes of bowing down, reaching up, reaching out and reaching in. I hope we can take this information and make it our own, and I hope we realize that without all of these elements working in harmony in our lives we are missing out on an aspect(s) of our walk with God and that saddens him, and hurts the community of faith.

DIACONATE REPORT

Refugee Update

By: Various Deacons

In early 2006, Calvin Church was approached by a couple from Ottawa seeking assistance in sponsoring a brother and sister forced to flee Eritrea (in East Africa next to Ethiopia) because of their Christian faith. Josief Abraham, 21 and Adiam Asefaw, 24, were members of a house church, but following confrontations with state security forces, separately went into hiding and set off for Sudan in late 2005. They ended up in Khartoum, Sudan where they continue to live in some insecurity and uncertainty, but trusting in God's will. The Diaconate agreed to help sponsor these refugees and in July 2007, applications were submitted to Citizenship and Immigration Canada. The application is still under review by Immigration Canada. Please pray for safety and assurance for Josief and Adiam, and that they might soon be able to come to Canada. Also, please pray for family members still in Eritrea, where religious persecution continues.

We are also continuing to work with the relatives of the refugees previously sponsored by Calvin to sponsor some more of the family to come to Canada. They are also Eritrean, but have had to flee from Ethiopia, where they were born and lived until recently because of the conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea. They are now living in Nairobi, Kenya. However, a few years ago the Canadian government changed the requirements of the refugee sponsorship program so that only UN recognized refugees are eligible and the relatives in Kenya have not yet received UN refugee designation. Thus, it may not be possible to sponsor any of them.

Finally, we are looking into the potential sponsorship of some Sudanese young people now in Zambia. Again, this is dependent on them obtaining official UN refugee designation.

For more information, please contact Eric Hogeterp or Nick Van Dyk.

POINT TO PONDER – Page 3 CONT'D

(Continued from Page 1– “Ponder”)

body function, if they wished to function on their own, the body would end up confused, not able to function, and eventually stumble and fall. However, when working in tandem with each other, and being aware of what the other is all about, the different elements of the body can be a powerful force in the Kingdom.

I suspect that this realization is not just isolated to the groups I was mentioning earlier. Worship can become an island unto itself, as can small groups within a church, or even groups like the Elders, Deacons and Ministry Board. The common thread that weaves its way into these matters is the very fact that there is a danger of not weaving together at all. We run the risk of running off in different directions as a church and in effect spending lots of time and energy getting nowhere.

Now, again, I say these things with the realization that most of us here at Calvin desire to work together and to advance the Kingdom of God. It is not even on our radar screens that we could be at odds with each other about the issue of engaging the world in the name of Christ. However, as I went through this process, there certainly is potential for this to happen. Hence, as I ponder these issues, I wish to issue a challenge to us as a church community. Are there ways we can come together to appreciate and understand the diversity that is contained within the Calvin Community? Take the area of prayer for example. We have several different prayer groups that meet regularly in Calvin. Could there be a time where the different groups get together and share their commonality and direction of ministry to ensure there is appreciation for the other, understanding of direction of ministry, and is that direction in line with the overall mission and goals of our Savior, and yes, the Calvin Community?

In the area of Outreach there seems to be two sides on the continuum. One side can be very social gospel in nature, and the other side very hyper gospel sharing in nature. Both are extremely valid and valued in the Kingdom of God and in my discussions I know that both sides here at Calvin have the same goal: To impact those around them and move them, and themselves, forward in the journey of faith. However, as I read the Scriptures, I don't find

(Continued on page 9 - See “Ponder”)

At Calvin we have many members with diverse backgrounds. Some of this diversity manifests itself in the sporting element. We have members who love to run, and as I discovered, we also have a member who loves kayaking, and has done quite well at it. These next articles feature two Calvin athletes who were given email interviews. If you know of others who have special gifts in any area of life, please contact Pastor Ron and perhaps we could highlight their stories too.

Julie Looper - Kayaker - Flatwater

No picture of Julie available at the time of publishing

What Sport are you involved in at the moment?

I have been kayaking - flatwater racing- for the past 5 years. I race in the K1 (one person kayak), K2 (2 person kayak) and K4 (4 person kayak). Flatwater racing kayaks are longer and narrower, and a lot tippier than your regular kayak that you might take out at the cottage. You can't do any Eskimo rolls in them, so if you fall out, you have to swim to shore or use another boat to help you climb back in. I have done my fair share of swimming!

How did you get started in this sport?

I rowed when I was in university and for 1 or 2 years after I finished university, but I didn't like getting up for practices at 5am every day. I love water sports, so I decided to try kayaking - I had never done it before but it looked like a lot of fun. I went to the Rideau Canoe Club one day to try it out, and I was hooked.

What has kept you going in it?

I love racing, and I love being on the water. I paddle with a great group of people, and my K2 partner and I are always pushing each other and motivating each other if one of us wants to stop.

Just recently you won a medal(s). What event was that and where and when was this event held?

I was in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia the last week of August to race at the Canadian canoe/kayak national championships and the Canadian Master's championships. I won 2 gold medals in Women's K4 500m and Mixed K4 200m. We got 4th in our Women's K2 500m and our K2 200m races.



How much training do you do?

Unfortunately, not enough! I have had to cut down on training time so now it is only 3 nights a week and the occasional Saturday. Practices are around 1 1/2 hours during the week, but if I can make it out on a Saturday, we try to do a longer paddle.

Has this training been challenging in any way? How?

Making a strong commitment to anything is always a challenge because you still have to try and balance out your life. I would love to train 6 days a week but that is not an option at this point. It is definitely hard to train the way I would like and be a single parent as well. I have to find a babysitter for Damian, and if they have to cancel, I cannot practice. As well, I find it difficult to take 2 hours out of the evening to practice because that means I have less time to spend with my son, who has been at daycare for most of the day already. It doesn't really seem fair for him and I always feel guilty about it.

What kind of support do you have as you train and participate in events?

Other members at the canoe club are absolutely fabulous at helping me out in a pinch. Whether it be someone to watch Damian so I can practice, or even my coach taking Damian out in the motor boat while coaching so that I can participate in a practice, they are all great. My K2 partner is very helpful and has no problems changing practice time to adapt to my schedule - which happens a lot! Damian is definitely my biggest fan though. He isn't usually too happy when I leave to go on the water to practice, but he always asks me if I had fun. His favourite question when I finish every single practice is ' Mommy, did you fall in today' ! You will also find him standing

(Continued on page 5 - See "Kayak")

(Continued from page 4 - "Kayak")

there cheering for me at races, and he has no problem hanging out with another paddler if I have to go out for a race. Although he couldn't come with me to Dartmouth, he was very happy going to visit Oma and Opa for the week so that I could race. My parents watch him every summer for the week that I race at nationals.

What are your goals or dreams for yourself in the future in relation to this sport?

My big goal right now is to race at the World Master's Championships in Australia next year. This competition only happens every 4 years. The trip is definitely only in the planning stages at the moment, because although my K2 partner and I are allowed to participate, we have to get the time off work and pay for the trip. We were just told this week that our times for K2 should give us a good chance of doing very well. Very exciting! If this trip doesn't work out however, there is always the next one, which can only be closer to home!

How has your Christian walk impacted what you do in this sport?

I have learned, both in kayaking and in any other sport I play, to give thanks to the Lord for the ability he has given me to participate in competitive sports. I realize that this is a talent which He has given me. I have also noticed that it has impacted the way I raise Damian to some degree. As I have mentioned, he is often left with other people while I practice, often over the dinner hour. He asked me once why other people don't say thank-you to God for their supper when they eat. I realized from this that it is very important to talk about God and what we believe regardless of where we are and who we are with.

Shawn Heij - Marathon Runner

How long have you been running?

I started running when I joined the Canadian Forces in 1993 but really didn't start competing until 2000.

What kind of races have you run in?

I compete in all sorts of races ranging from 1000 meter track races to Marathon distance (42.2 km). I also compete in triathlons and bike races.

What got you started?

Throughout university and my initial work in Petawawa I focused my athletic efforts towards weight training. However, in the winter of 1999, while I was on a course in Gagetown, I suffered a shoulder injury. My housemate and close friend was training for his first marathon and encouraged me to race. I trained and ran my first race ever at the National Capital Half Marathon in 2000. After that, I was pretty much hooked.

Why do you continue to run?

I ask myself this question sometime during each race. Besides the health and stress relief benefits, I enjoy the comradery and opportunity for self-examination that running provides. To improve, running requires dedication and perseverance. Only through adversity do you really learn what you are truly capable of.

What kind of training is involved for your running?

I train 7 days a week. One of those days I give my joints a rest and spend some time weight training in the gym. I vary my running workouts between recovery runs, speed work, hill runs and long runs (typically for over two



Shawn finishing with his personal best time of 2 hrs 56 min in the 42.2 km National Capital Marathon. May 26, 2007.

(Continued on page 6 - See "Marathon")

(Continued from page 5 - "Marathon")

hours immediately before Sunday morning service in case anyone wonders why I look tired and walk funny). In the weeks leading up to a marathon, I will be running close to 100 km a week.

What was the most exhilarating race for you?

The most exhilarating race I've ever had has to be my second marathon. It was here in Ottawa and I exceeded my expectations by quite a bit. I enjoyed the run, felt healthy and that was the first time I qualified to run the Boston Marathon. Everything seemed to go right that day. Anyone who has seen the movie "Saint Ralph" (a hard to find Canadian indie film) will understand the running-on-air sensation.

What was the most difficult race for you?

There are several races I could classify as my "most difficult". During each one, I hit a breaking point. A point where my body and mind could not continue and I was reduced to walking for a period of time. These are always low points in life but each one serves as a learning opportunity.

How do you push through a race? i.e. What goes through your mind?

There is a fine line between tough and stupid. I am frequently unclear as to which side I'm on, especially during a race. Racing is only the end of that particular journey. I try to remember all the work I put in and visualize the finish line and move towards that. When things get too tough, if the truth be told, my prayer life

is typically put into overdrive as I seek the strength and the will to carry on.

How do you equate running to your spiritual life? Is there a connection point for you?

I have a lot of time for prayer and contemplation during my training runs as I typically do not run with music or other distractions. I will never forget one Sunday morning long run. It was Easter and I was out before dawn. As the sun came up on a picture perfect day, I found myself in awe of God's beautiful creation. I spent two hours running along rivers, past woods and through neighbourhoods all the time singing quietly to myself, *"I serve a risen Saviour, he's in the world today...HE LIVES, HE LIVES, Christ Jesus Lives today...He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way!"*. It was one of those occasions that I felt very close to my creator and thankful for all he has done for me.

Any other comments you'd like to make about your running career:

Running is a good metaphor for the Christian life. As was mentioned earlier, although the race is important, it is only the end state. How you conduct your training and build to the big event is what counts. In life, we are all moving towards that end point of eternal life with our Creator. Throughout life's journey, we will make many choices, interact with many people and fight through many challenges. Christ has run on ahead of us and shown us the way.

It is our task to follow in his footsteps and persevere where others may drop off the pace.

MINISTRY GROUP HIGHLIGHT: COFFEE BREAK

Periodically I try to highlight different ministries that are going on in the Calvin Community. In this issue we take a look at Coffee Break. Joycegina Hosmar is the current Coffee Break Co-ordinator (yes, in case you were wondering if the last name sounded familiar, she's my wife:))

How long have you been heading up Coffee Break?

I have been involved with Coffee Break for 5 years and this is my 3rd year as director.

How did you come to be the coordinator?

The previous coordinator, or director, had to leave due to elder duties and I agreed to take over the position.

(Continued on page 7 - See "Coffee Break")

(Continued from page 6 "CoffeeBreak")

What is your vision for Coffee Break at Calvin?

I would like to see women who are not actively involved in Calvin come out to Coffee Break. At Coffee Break they can get to know other women, learn and grow through a study group, and begin to feel like a part of the Calvin community.

How many women have come to Coffee Break previously and what is the demographic that come? i.e. single, with children, etc.

We have had anywhere from 20 to 30 women come to Coffee Break. They are mostly married women and the age ranges from the 20's to the 70's. About half of the women have young children that are either in nursery or Story Hour.

How does a typical Wed. run?

We meet for refreshments and social time from 9:30 to 9:50 a.m. Then we head down to our study groups

until 11 a.m. We have three different study groups that the women can be part of. During Coffee Break the youngest children are cared for in nursery and the 4 & 5 year olds are involved in the Story Hour program.

What has been a joy for you as you've coordinated this ministry?

It has been a joy to see new friendships develop and to hear about how much the women have enjoyed their study groups.

What has been a struggle?

We have had a hard time getting Calvin women who are not involved in the church to come to Coffee Break. Some may be working, but others just don't seem to want to come.

Any other questions you might have, or comments you want to make?

Most women who attend Coffee Break really enjoy it. I know that those with young children really need it as a break in their week. I also know that for many women, Coffee Break is a great way to get into God's word and grow in their faith.

PERU MISSION TEAM UPDATE

Since the mission trip to Peru, our group continues to meet together periodically to reflect on our experience and also to think about the future. Part of those discussions have led us to the point where we are going to be writing to Gameliel Church, the Peruvian church that we have been ministering with, and see how we can form a better long-term partnership with them.

Our group desires not only to make this church a one or two time event, but to build a sustainable relationship with them that will be mutually edifying. We hope to be able to seek out needs of the church and its community, and then find ways to assist them in meeting those needs. The needs are many. Just some that we observed were:

- ⇒ **Legal counsel for the purchase of land deeds.**
- ⇒ **School uniforms, and other items that are difficult to purchase due to lack of income.**

- ⇒ **Having Sergio (their Pastor) be able to work full time as their pastor.**
- ⇒ **Outreach and children's programming needs**
- ⇒ **Operating a Christian Day school at the elementary level.**

We do not want to assume these are the most pressing needs of the church, hence the letter. The Ministry Board is supporting these initiatives and you will hear more about them in the months to come as we prepare to once again join Gameliel Church in March of 2010.



ETM Camping

Way back at the end of May, our Early Teen Ministry Group went camping at Sandbanks Provincial Park. The weather was windy, cool, but beautiful. We enjoyed a car scavenger hunt on the way up, a scavenger hunt at the park, a visit to an OCS teacher, who just happened to be cottaging that weekend right beside us, a time to hike, and time to simply relax and rest. All of us had a great time. Soon there will be a Blog entry about that trip so check out www.ronhosmar.blogspot.com for more details.



CIA Camping

Way back at the end of May, our small group of young people travelled to Sandbanks Provincial Park for a weekend of camping. There was a lot of rain, but we still managed to eek out a good time of playing cards and getting to know each other better. Soon there will be a Blog entry about that trip so check out www.ronhosmar.blogspot.com for more details.



Church Picnic

On June 14, many at Calvin gathered under the large trees of Gilbey Park, set out their lawn chairs, and enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship at the annual Calvin Church Picnic. The weather was beautiful, the fellowship sweet and the food delicious. Three BBQ's were humming along with burgers and hot dogs for the taking. Salads and desserts were a plenty as well. Thanks to Louise Boutin and Pastor Ken who planned this event and ensured everyone was well taken care of.

Special Needs SERVE

This past July 12 - 17, eleven Special Needs persons and 13 mentors, along with over 50 volunteers, gathered at Calvin CRC for six days of service and praise to God. It was a wonderful time for all who came out and attended. Our mentors were blessed, our volunteers were blessed, and we were all blessed by our 11 participants. If you want to know more about this week, check out the blog entry in July at www.ronhosmar.blogspot.com. You'll be glad you did. There is also a short Banner Article in October's Issue.



PAST EVENTS @ CALVIN - CONTINUED

Calvin Camping

On a warm weekend in August, 15 - 17 to be exact, several members of Calvin descended on Lac Philippe Camp Ground for a weekend of fellowship. As has been the case with EVERY camping event we've held, it rained Friday when we arrived. However, this time, things cleared up, and we were able to enjoy a great weekend of swimming in the water, hiking and treasure hunting, roasting marshmallows by the fire and discussing both the light and meatier sides of life. Check out the blog entry about the weekend at www.ronhosmar.blogspot.com for more information and the juicy details. :)



"Activating Your Spiritual Senses", "Unshakable Kingdom", "The Supernatural Power of Rest", "Miracles Unto Harvest" and "Walking in the Power of God" just to name a few!

While learning to host the Presence of God we grew closer to our Savior and closer to each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Thank you Lord for Your gift of the Holy Spirit and the opportunity to experience You in this way.

Signs & Wonders Conference

On the last weekend in September, nine members of Calvin attended a Signs and Wonders Conference in Toronto. What follows is a brief report of their experiences. If you wish to know more, please talk to James and Jodi Hall or Annette Brinkman.

From September 25th - 28th a group from Calvin traveled to Toronto to the Airport Christian Fellowship Church (TACF) and spend the weekend attending the Signs & Wonders Conference. The nine individuals who attended were all blessed and walked away changed. Each day there were hours of Praise & Worship and a rich variety of speakers including Bill Johnson, John & Carol Arnott, Heidi Baker, James Levesque, Karen Dunham, and Duncan Smith.

This Conference, hosted annually by TACF, and broadcasted by God TV, was a chance to be refreshed and filled with the fire of God. We heard life changing testimonies of God's healing power in people's lives, saw incredible miracles performed and the unconditional, extravagant love the Father lavishes upon His children. We took part in workshops such as

POINT TO PONDER - CONT'D

(Continued from Page 2— "Ponder")

either side as being the ultimate end in itself. In fact, each really needs the other in order to flourish. Are there ways that those with similar desires can get together and dialogue about the overall goals of reaching out beyond our church walls? We may come to the conclusion that we may be going about things differently, but we may also develop a new respect and admiration for the other's point of view, and the realization that we are all at least moving forward, and not standing still.

Now, having said all of this might have actually upset some of you whom I have been talking too. I'm okay with that if it gets us ALL to dialogue together. There is diversity within the Calvin community, and we can either embrace it, or fear it. Each has it's own set of consequences. If we embrace our diversity, I think we can come together and dialogue in very effective ways about that diversity. Through that dialogue, understanding and appreciation for the other's points of view hopefully begins to develop, which then helps us all to move forward with, not our own agenda's, but that of our Lord and Master. That is truly something that I hope we can continue to foster here at Calvin CRC, because it is through that sort of ongoing dialogue that God will bless our lives and the lives of those we touch, whether that be within our community of faith, or beyond it.

Calvin Christmas Dinner Party

If you are a member of Calvin church, or a regular visiting guest here, the Fellowship Committee would like to invite you to a Christmas Party that will take place at Calvin CRC on **Friday, November 29th beginning at 6:30 PM.** Why so early you ask? We are trying not to conflict with all the workplace Christmas Party events that go on in the month of December.



Here are some facts you need to know:

- ⇒ It will be potluck style - bring a main dish and either an appetizer or dessert. (Please let Louise Boutin or Pastor Ron know which it will be so we can ensure we have balance.)
- ⇒ Refreshments (coffee and tea and Christmas juices) will be provided.
- ⇒ Bring a wrapped gift of \$5 or less per person for a fun game we'll be playing during the evening.
- ⇒ Please wear something green or red.
- ⇒ If you have children, please leave them at home with a trusted caregiver (unless you have a newborn and need to have him/her with you).
- ⇒ This evening is open to all Calvin members and regular attenders over the age of 18. We have been steadily expanding our age representation, and would love to continue to do this.

We hope you'll come out and take the time to fellowship together. If you know of friends who might want to come, by all means bring them along. We'd love to get to know them too. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Louise or Pastor Ron.

Sign up sheets will be coming out in early November, or you can R.S.V.P. to Pastor Ron Hosmar at youthpastor@calvincrc.ca or 613-225-5846 Ext 3.

Skating @ Rideau Hall



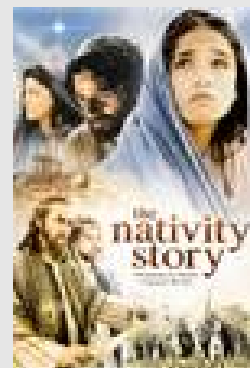
Once again we hope to go skating this winter at Rideau Hall on Saturday, January 24th, 2009 from 5:30—7:00 p.m. We must be selected from a bunch of applications, but we are hopeful. :))

No cost, and parking is free. The only catch is we are only allowed to have 50 people on the ice. There will be a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall beginning January 6th and the first 50 people who sign up will be going. Get your name on the sheet sooner than later. It was a fun time last year.



The Nativity Story

On the evening of Sunday, December 21st, we hope to host a viewing of THE NATIVITY STORY here at Calvin CRC. Flyers will be available soon to hand out to your friends and neighbors. More details will be forthcoming, so mark your calendars for that evening.



Calvin's Event Calendar



For some time now, we've had a calendar on our web site which we've been updating for you. We just wanted to let you know that it's there for your use to keep you informed as to what we are up to when it comes to committee meetings, ministry events, worship events, special events, etc. We also have a monthly calendar that just started coming out in your mailboxes that will have those events, as well as the birthday's of all those part of the Calvin CRC community.

Simply go to www.calvincrc.ca and click on the "Events Calendar" side bar to bring up what's current and happening. If there's an underline under the event, click on it, and another window will appear with further explanations of the event.

We hope you will look at these calendars often because it highlights all of the ministries that are happening within Calvin CRC.

Ministry Committees and Small Group Leaders

If you have an event or ministry you would like on the calendars, especially if you are the chair of a committee or ministry (e.g. ministry board, consistory, honeymooners, quilting, seniors, GEMS, etc.), please forward this information to Swanny vanderLaan at

**swanny_lake@hotmail.com , or
call Swanny at 613-723-5632.**

and contact the church office at office@calvincrc.ca
to ensure your information stays up to date.

In order to keep the calendar up to date, we do ask for you to give your information to Swanny a minimum of one month in advance, with more lead time being preferred.

We thank Swanny and Widya for continuing to help us out, and you for your cooperation in this matter. We look forward to this ministry tool continuing to be used, not only by we who are part of Calvin CRC, but also by those who visit our web site as people curious about this community and church we call Calvin.

mychurchbody.com

If you volunteer in any area of Calvin Church, you should be aware of a wonderful tool we have called

"mychurchbody.com"

this scheduler was conceived to help prevent double booking of volunteers doing multiple volunteer tasks in Calvin. Those who have been using it are finding it a great tool.

In an effort to save paper, you can now use the scheduler to view your entire schedule for your volunteer areas. You can also book yourself off for vacations/time away so you will be unavailable to be selected for volunteering.

If you have not yet taken advantage of this great ministry tool, here's how you can:

1. Simply log onto www.mychurchbody.com and click the "Activate" button in the "First Time User? Active your account." section.
2. Set the "Church Name" to "Calvin CRC",
3. Type in the password "calvin" and click on the "Continue" button.
4. Find your name in the "User List" and click on your name.
5. You will then be able to set your Login ID and your password.
6. Click on "Update" and follow the instructions on the screen.

If you are a newer member to Calvin, or if you don't find your name listed, simply contact Pastor Ken or Pastor Ron and they will make sure your name gets added to the list. If you do not have access to the internet, feel free to use the computer in the church office. We hope you'll come to find this program a very useful tool as many others have done already.



Volunteers Needed:

A church of this size is always looking for volunteers to assist in the various areas of ministry that happen here. Below are some areas that are in need of beefing up and if ANY of these appeal to you, please give Pastor Ron a call sooner than later and we can talk more about what they involve.

- ⇒ **Bulletin Editor** once a month to relieve Swanny VanderLaan and when she's on vacation.
- ⇒ **Ushers and Greeters:** We are always looking for more Ushers and Greeters
- ⇒ **Fellowship Committee:** We'd love at least one more person to assist us in the Fellowship Events area.
- ⇒ **Outreach Committee:** We are always looking for individuals who have a passion for reaching out in our community.
- ⇒ **Extencicare volunteers:** We are looking for families/individuals to sign up to assist in the weekly Extencicare Sunday services. We need speakers, musical players, and people gatherers.

JUST FOR FUN - KIDS ON RELIGION

What follows are some great stories about kids and how they view Christianity. As you read them realize that children learn so much by just observing us. As a parent, that is very sobering at times. Remember as you read that you have to be able to laugh at yourself. If you don't, someone else sure is going to. Why not beat them to it!

LOT'S WIFE: The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'My Mommy looked back once while she was driving,' he announced triumphantly, 'and she turned into a telephone pole!'

GOOD SAMARITAN: A Sunday school teacher was telling her class the story of the Good Samaritan. She asked the class, 'If you saw a person lying on the roadside, all wounded and bleeding, what would you do?' 'A thoughtful little girl broke the hushed silence, 'I think I'd throw up.'

DID NOAH FISH? A Sunday school teacher asked, 'Johnny, do you think Noah did a lot of fishing when he was on the Ark?' 'No,' replied Johnny. 'How could he, with just two worms.'

BEING THANKFUL: A parson said to a precocious six-year-old boy, 'So your mother says your prayers for you each night? That's very commendable. What does she say?' The little boy replied, 'Thank God he's in bed!'

PRAYER TIME: A pastor asked a little boy if he said his prayers every night. 'Yes, sir,' the boy replied. And, do you always say them in the morning, too?' the pastor asked. 'No sir,' the boy replied. 'I ain't scared in the daytime.'