

THE VISION

MT CALVARY UMC
Harrisburg, PA

ROOTED IN PRAYER ✦ GROWING DISCIPLES ✦ REACHING THE WORLD

JANUARY 2026

Rev. James Copulos, Pastor
Pastor Lynn Hackman, Pastoral Assistant
Barb Buckingham, Organist
Danielle Eagleson, Choir Director
Ashley Howson, Jubilee Worship Leader
Owen Howson, Youth Leader
Erica Sehar, Children's Director

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Happy New Year!

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The cast of "Christmas Eve."

The children of Mount Calvary UMC performed their yearly Christmas play during the combined worship service on December 21st. The play was entitled, "Christmas Eve: The Girl who Saved Christmas" and included over 25 children from Mt. Calvary and our community. Thank you to Erica Sehar, Anna Strouse, Maddie Snyder, Molly Snyder and all of the parents and children that made the play such a wonderful success! The children were surprised with cookies and treats and a visit from local llamas and alpacas after the play.

New Prayer Ministry Begins!



The New Mt. Calvary Prayer Ministry will kick off on Thursday, January 22nd at 6:30PM. It will then meet on the 4th Thursday each month. The purpose of this group will be to pray for our church, community, and world. At our first meeting, we'll also discuss the best practices for prayer at Mt. Calvary, the potential for praying in our neighborhood and local communities, and how to best reach out to others who are in need of prayer.

Discipleship Program Beginning This February

Mount Calvary will be starting a Discipleship Pathway at the beginning of February. The program is called "Foundations" and was developed at Saddleback Church which was pastored by Rick Warren, author of "A Purpose Driven Life." This is a wonderful opportunity to connect with the primary beliefs and practices of the Christian Faith. If you're new to the church or Christianity, this will be a great class to take. All current church members are invited to join this pathway as well, both to learn and to mentor those who may be newer to Biblical studies and subjects. The tentative start date is Tuesday, February 3rd and we'll have more information in the coming Sundays as well as next month's Vision regarding logistics.



Top Moments of 2025 for Mount Calvary

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

HAPPY NEW YEAR MT. CALVARY!!! As we look forward to what God has in store for ministry and mission in 2026 I decided to have a fun look back at what we accomplished in 2025. I was originally going to do a 12-days of Christmas theme but I needed to add a few of extra “days” because of how many amazing things happened last year. In fact, there was a lot I had to leave out just to make it work!!! Take a look at what ministry at Mt. Calvary looked like in 2025 and imagine what amazing things God is going to do through the body of Christ in 2026:

15 15+ Cars for Trunk Or Treat

14 \$14,000 Donated To and Fund-Raised For Our Youth Ministry

13 13 Confirmands

12 Active Small Groups (JOY Sunday School, Adult Sunday School, Children's Sunday School, Youth Group/Sunday School, Manada Hill Bible Study, Women's Bible Study, Men's Bible Study, Rahab's Book Club, Men's Sharing Group, Choir, Bell Choir, Jubilee)

11 11th Full Year With Pastor Jim

10 Women's Events (Kitchen Cleanup, Bingo, Wonders Found Volunteer Day, Paint Party, Progressive Patio Party, Flower Planting, Donuts For Dads, Extraordinary Women's Conference, Ronald McDonald House, Cookie Exchange)

9 Unique Worship Services (Children's Sunday, A Flood Of Grace Revival, Living Last Supper, Youth Sunday, Confirmation Sunday, VBS Sunday, Wonders Found Sunday, Eve Of Joy: Mercy Meets Majesty, Children's Christmas Play)

8 Participants in Financial Peace University

7 Big Mission Projects (Transform, Wonders Found, 50 Complete Sets for Toys for Tots, 200 Shoe Boxes for Operation Christmas Child, 2 Mission Trips (Adult and Youth), Renovating the Youth Space and Wonders Found)

6 Awesome Church Staff (Blake Bechtel, Barb Buckingham, Danielle Eagleson, Lynn Hackman, Ashley Howson, Owen Howson)

5 5(0+) Kids At VBS!

4 4(0) People Going To See The Ark In Kentucky

3 Church Weddings (Tom and Amanda (Moore) Billington, Chris and Brooke (Barber) Lambert, Cameron and Olivia (Topp) Flinn)

2 More than \$2 million made at Wonders Found in 14 years.

1 Brand New 5-Year Vision Plan

PASTOR JMM



WONDERS FOUND DECEMBER REPORT

A mission trip to Clark's Summit several years ago continues to provide opportunities to share God's love! The daughter of a couple whom our mission team worked with there recently came to Wonders Found to borrow a walker for her Dad who was having knee replacement surgery. During her visit she asked if she could volunteer at the shop. She came the next week with her clearances and started immediately. God never forgets us!! It's all in His timing. What is He encouraging you to do?? PS: Dad is doing great and his new knee is working fine!

What happens when we get more medical equipment donated than we can handle? Mission Central or Pronio's Grocery Store receives our excess to share locally and in places like Ukraine.

Wonders Found had a fantastic 2025 and we are looking forward to what God has planned for us in 2026!!! Check out the Vision next month for our 2025 financial report.

Store Sales for November	\$28,192.04
Soda can Tabs	\$200
Jewelry sales	\$2,205.00
Total Income	\$30,597.04
Rent	-\$7,000.00
Utilities	-\$535.91
Store Supplies	-\$1,486.72
Missions	-\$2,200.00
Sales Tax	-\$1,035.21
Total Expenses	-\$12,257.84
Net Profit / Loss	\$18,339.20

SPECIAL CHURCH CONFERENCE RESULTS

All recommendations from the Vision Team were passed at November's Church Conference. The Community Garden recommendation was slightly amended, the wording of which you can see below:

New Vision Statement: "Rooted in Prayer. Growing Disciples. Reaching the World."

Yes - 33 No - 1

Placing a prayer box at the front of the church driveway. **Yes - 34** No - 0

Converting the volleyball court into a prayer garden. **Yes - 29** No - 5

Establishing a program to provide fresh garden food for those in need. **Yes - 28** No - 4

Conducting a feasibility study to assess the viability of building a community center/gymnasium. **Yes - 20** No - 12

Recommendations for what information to put on neighborhood Church Signs (as space allows).

Name On Signs:

"Mt. Calvary Church" with "UMC" underneath it:	14
"United Methodist Church" with "Mt. Calvary" underneath it:	2
"Mt. Calvary Church" without the "UMC":	7
"United Methodist Church" without "Mt. Calvary":	0
"Mt. Calvary United Methodist Church":	10

Worship Times On Signs?	Yes - 19	No - 15
Methodist Flag On Signs?	Yes - 16	No - 13
Address On Signs?	Yes - 29	No - 3

MCUMC CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES JANUARY '26



JANUARY + FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
ON 1/4!
HBD ALEX, GRAYSON AND
ADRENNIA!

CHECK OUT
OUR EVENTS
ON OUR
FACEBOOK
PAGE
@MCUMC
CHILDREN'S
MINISTRIES



Join us for Simply Loved Sunday School at
9:30am where kids will learn how loved they
are!

'I look up to mountains - does my help come
from there? My help comes from the Lord, who
made heaven and earth!' (Psalm 121:1-2)

We will have the following lessons:
Samuel anoints David as King, God helps
David defeat Goliath, Jonathan helps David,
Abigail brings peace
And they will learn that
God helps us stand strong!

YOUTH GROUP JANUARY UPDATE

Hello Everyone!

Happy New Year!! What an amazing opportunity to start the year off living for Christ and deepening our relationship with Him. We had a pretty amazing year last year and I am beyond excited to see what God has in store for us this year.

Starting us off is our official start of Blammol! which will then be followed by our annual spaghetti dinner hosted by the youth in for January 17th. The spaghetti dinner leads straight into the Youth Lock-in, where the youth are locked in the church and spend the night there until the church services the next morning. This is an awesome time to have great devotions, as well as just having fun with your friends playing the games we have all come to love in Youth Group.

Also plan ahead for the Youth Retreat! We will be going to Camp Sankanac February 6th - 8th. This is a really cool camp where we will get to have some awesome lessons and fellowship time, awesome food, and make some really great memories.

January 4th - Youth Group 6-7:30 (doors open at 5:30)

January 11th - Youth Group 6-7:30 (doors open at 5:30)

January 17th - Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser and Youth Group Lock-in!

January 18th - No Youth Group. Get your homework done and then get some sleep!

January 25th - Youth Group 6-7:30 (doors open at 5:30)

February 6-8th - Youth Retreat at Camp Sankanac.

Hope to see you all there!!

Owen Howson

Events and Happenings

January Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 Amy Hudson
- 2 Maddie Kreamer
- 3 Jim Hepschmidt
- 3 John Miele
- 6 Alex Benke
- 6 Brad Schidler
- 7 Erica Wass
- 8 Todd Ruddle
- 10 Joshua Wagner
- 12 Terry Craig
- 12 Troy Gutshall
- 13 Sofia Klos
- 16 Ellie Weber
- 18 Joel Hoover
- 18 Ellie Kemmerling
- 19 Pat Blessing
- 19 Amanda Craig
- 19 Ann Fletcher
- 21 Garrett Schug
- 22 Dale Travitz
- 23 Janet Heckert
- 23 Logan Kreamer
- 24 Judy Imes
- 24 John Kreamer
- 25 Jared Miller
- 27 Pat Travitz
- 28 Margaret Koons
- 28 Zachary Waltman
- 31 Sally Hoffmen
- 31 Cooper Hudson

Wedding Anniversaries

- 27 John and Maddie Kreamer

Meetings

Youth Advisory Council (YAC)	1/5	6:45pm
Staff Meeting	1/6	6pm
Trustees	1/7	7pm
Ad Council	1/12	7pm
Men's Ministry Planning Mtg	1/21	6pm

The Giving Tree

Thank You, Mt. Calvary!
Because of your generosity, 8 children had a merrier Christmas. Over 40 gifts were delivered from our Giving Tree to West Hanover Elementary School for children from two families in need. Thank you for showing God's love and care to those in our community.

Recent Deaths

Boyd B. Brandt on December 1, 2025
Alison (Shockley) Green on December 6, 2025
Donna (Hershey) Cassell on December 13, 2025
Bob Smith on December 23, 2025

Offering Envelopes

2026 Offering Envelopes: -The following people have not yet picked up their offering envelopes for the new year. Please stop by the office to get your box at your earliest convenience. If you have switched to online giving, just let the office know so we can make the adjustment. Thank You! Lenny Baumbaugh, Mark Davies, Janet Deardorff, Donald Heckert, Michael Heisey, Jennifer Hess, Judy Imes, Susan Janesko, Randolph Kemmerling, Marge Kern, Clyde Liddick, Marlin McCormick, Beverly Paul, Cathy Quigley, Amber Reed, James Reynolds, Madolyn Sandifer, Eleanor Weber, Gary Wert.

Upcoming Events

January 4th: Last Holiday Combined Service

Decoration Tear Down
January 4th after worship

Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser: January 17th

Youth Lock-In: - January 17th immediately following spaghetti dinner

Youth Retreat: February 6-8th

Children's Sunday:
February 15th Combined Service 10AM

Congratulations to
Matt Luttrell on winning
the 2025 Mt. Calvary
Fantasy Football League.
Thank you to everyone who
participated!



Safe Sanctuaries

SAFE SANCTUARIES training is a constant reminder to us that the safety and care of our children and at risk-adults is a requirement as Christians. Many of us are currently out of date with our mandated requirements. Please check the bulletin board to see if you're missing any clearances. More information will be forthcoming to help you take care of these tasks. Questions? See Pastor Lynn.

Collection Updates

Food Pantry: The collection item for the month of January is toilet paper. However, you're also encouraged to bring in non-perishable food items for your donation. All donations can be placed in the designated plastic tub in the lobby. Thank You!

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Christmas Celebration at Mt. Calvary a memorable one. From the musicians, to the children, to those behind the scenes, we hope you had a blessed Christmas. To God be the Glory!

JANUARY HELPERS

9am Traditional Service	January 4 COMBINED SERVICE 10AM	January 11	January 18	January 25	February 1
Acolyte	Wyatt Scheidler	Evertt Sehar	Ava Wagner	Whitney Sehar	Aiden Benke
Greeters	Matt and Sarina Boyd	Nancy Wass Pennsy Waltman	Scott and Erica Sehar	Jim Reynolds Erin Collelo	Brad and Nicole Scheidler
Media	Amanda Copulos	Jaan Sidorov	Bob Ulrey	Blake Bechtel	Micah Copulos
Scripture Reader	Pam Ruddle	Daina Reynolds	Maddie Kreamer	Brad Scheidler	Frank Duschek
Stewards	Blaine Fry Todd Ruddle	Diana Reynolds Kay Holtzman	Sharon Sidorov John Kreamer	Bob Ulrey Blaine Fry	Kathy Duschek Diana Reynolds
Ushers (head usher listed first)	Bill Griffiths Anna Strouse	Brad and Nicole Scheidler	Ty Kreamer Brenda Mumma	Blaine Fry Bob Ulrey	Bill Griffiths Beth Matthews
Children's Sunday School Teachers	Brenda Mumma Janie Deardorff	Nicole Scheidler Carolyn Heckert	Mary Beth Miele Tom Billington	Erica Sehar Stacy Archibald	Cheryl Blaha Tom Billington
11am Jubilee Service	January 4 COMBINED SERVICE 10AM	January 11	January 18	January 25	February 1
Nursery	Mark Schug Sarah Klos	Kim Kalinowski Maddie Snyder	Amanda Billington Jeff Klos	Jake Loffreda Ashley Howson	Amanda Copulos Owen Howson
Greeters	see above	Tammy Gutshall Jennifer Hess	Jamie Gaiski Janet Copulos	Cheryl Blaha Janet Deardorff	Dave and Sheila Heckman
Media	see above	Amanda Copulos	Mitchell White	Amanda Copulos	Mitchell White
Scripture Reader	see above	Debbie Schug	Dave Heckman	Rachel Woodworth	Amy Thomas
Stewards	see above	Matt Luttrell Russ THomas	Mark Schug Russ Thomas	Russ Thomas Mark Schug	Russ Thomas Todd Ruddle

January Calendar

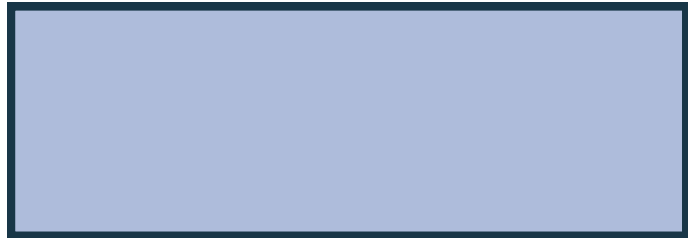
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
S-Sanctuary SH-Social Hall CR-Conference Room YR - Youth Room				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY 	2	3
4 10am - Combined Service 11am - Fellowship Time 11am - Decoration Tear-Down 5:30pm - Youth Group	5 11am - Manada Hill Bible Study 4-7pm - Barb, piano lessons, S 6:45pm - YAC Meeting, CR	6 6pm Staff Meeting, SH 6:30pm - Men's Group, CR	7 6am Men's Sharing Group, SH 6pm Bell Practice, S 7:15pm Choir Practice 7pm Trustees Meeting, CR	8	9	10
11 9am - Traditional Service 10am - Fellowship Time 10:15am - Sunday Schools 11am - Jubilee Service 12pm - Decoration Tear-Down 5:30pm - Youth Group	12 11am - Manada Hill Bible Study 4-7pm - Barb, piano lessons, S 6:30pm - Women's Bible Study, SR 7pm - Ad Council	13 6:30pm - Men's Group, CR	14 6am Men's Sharing Group, SH 6pm Bell Practice, S 7:15pm Choir Practice	15	16	17 10am-3:30pm - Private Function, SH 5pm - Spaghetti Diner Youth Lock-In
18 9am - Traditional Service 10am - Fellowship Time 10:15am - Sunday Schools 11am - Jubilee Service No Youth Group	19 11am - Manada Hill Bible Study 4-7pm - Barb, piano lessons, S 6:30pm - Women's Bible Study, CR	20 6:30pm - Men's Group, CR 7pm - Rahab's Book Club, SH	21 6am Men's Sharing Group, SH 6pm Bell Practice, S 7:15pm Choir Practice	22 6pm - First Prayer Ministry Meeting, CR	23	24
25 9am - Traditional Service 10am - Fellowship Time 10:15am - Sunday Schools 11am - Jubilee Service 5:30pm - Youth Group	26 11am - Manada Hill Bible Study 4-7pm - Barb, piano lessons, S 6:30pm - Women's Bible Study, CR	27 6:30pm - Men's Group, CR	28 6am Men's Sharing Group, S 6pm Bell Practice, S 7:15pm Choir Practice	29	30	31



Pastor Jim, Pastor Lynn, Barb, Danielle, Ashley, Owen and Blake all wish to gratefully thank the people of Mount Calvary for their Christmas gifts. Your generosity is evident, as it is at all other times of the year. We love you all and are thankful we have been called to serve the Lord and all of you here at Mt. Calvary. From our hearts, THANK YOU!

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Connect with Us!
Scan below



The Vision – January 2026

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Worship With Us:
Traditional Worship: 9:00AM
Coffee Fellowship and Sunday School: 10:00AM
Jubilee Contemporary Worship: 11:00AM

NOTE: If you are receiving this newsletter and no longer wish to receive it, or have joined another church, please contact us to have your name removed from the mailing list.