

2007 FALL EDITION

Chapel NEWS

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF CALVARY CHAPEL WARWICK, RI

- Pastor's Corner -



REST?

Rest. Rest Stop. Rest Area. Rest Home. Restaurant. All these sound good to me right now. The theme for this edition is rest, and it comes at one of the busiest and craziest times for me. Rest? How? When? Is it possible to find rest when the world around us is spinning out of control? Is it just finding time to take a nap here and there? Or is there more to it than that? I thought of the time when Jesus' disciples were in the boat on the sea and a terrible storm came up. The disciples began to freak out. Where was Jesus? He was in the back of the boat, sleeping. They went and woke Him, saying, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" How could Jesus be sleeping at such a time? Well, of course He must have been tired. But He also had rest in His soul, or He wouldn't have been able to sleep! David the psalmist said it, "My soul finds rest in God alone..."

How can we have rest, true rest, that affects the whole of our lives? It can only be when our souls "find rest in God alone", when our trust is in Him. But that's not always so easy, is it? Sometimes we get so worn out that it's hard to put our trust anywhere. But that's when we really need to turn to God. And we have to be willing to trust Him. I found this verse in Jeremiah:

This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, 'We will not walk in it.' (Jeremiah 6:16.NIV)

We have to look, ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it. And we will find rest for our souls. And it's something we need to do more than once. The author of Psalm 116 says, "Be at rest once more, O my soul, for the LORD has been good to you." We need to remind ourselves that God will take care of us, that we can trust Him. One person said about this passage, "The psalmist...calls his soul to rest; and rocks it asleep in a spiritual security. Oh, learn this holy art; acquaint thyself with God, acquiesce in Him, and be at peace..." Another said, "Return to that rest which Christ gives to the weary and heavy laden..."

It all calls us back to the basics of prayer, and of God's Word. When I feel I have

no rest, I need to find that quiet spot and talk to God about what's going on. I need to open His Word and let Him speak to me from it. How else could I survive?

Perhaps I should close with these words from the blessing that Solomon gave to the people on the occasion of the dedication of the Temple. There's some powerful truth found in them.

(Solomon) stood and blessed the whole assembly of Israel in a loud voice, saying: {56} "Praise be to the LORD, who has given REST to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses. {57} May the LORD our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us. (1 Ki 8:55-57 NIV)

With His love,

Pastor Rich

The LORD replied,
"My Presence will
go with you, and I
will give you rest."

- Exodus 33:14

Youth Group Update

Lindsey Dowiot

I once came across the following saying in a book of Pennsylvania Dutch proverbs: “Children have more need of models than of critics.” In Sunday School, we have been teaching our teens the importance of being good role models to the younger children, helping them to get excited about Jesus and His work. As I work with the teens, teaching them to be good role models for the younger kids, I am reminded that we adults need to realize that our little ones and teens are watching us. Our actions, words and how we serve Jesus are so visible to them.



Speaking of role models, the Youth Group is sad to lose one of our own teenage role models—Megan, who is leaving to attend her first year of college at University of Connecticut. She has been in the youth group ever since she was old enough to come, and she has come just about every time in those five or more years. Even though Megan is shy, she has naturally become one of our helpers and is a great example of how to live as a Christian teenager. It has been such a blessing having her in youth group and watching her grow in the Lord. We will miss her! Please be praying for her.

Here are a few more updates and news items.

- This summer the biggest highlight was our annual Six Flags trip, which was great. It always seems to rain on us, but only enough to lessen the crowds, and the kids get braver every year. I myself will stick to the kiddie rides.
- The Power Team was a great event for the youth. It gave them all an opportunity to serve in some way. Also some of our teens and their friends filled out commitment cards, so be praying for them!
- We are looking forward to the Fall. We are planning a progressive dinner, a trip to the Corn Maze, and our Acquire the Fire trip. And of course we're also planning next year's trip to Nicaragua. We'll have plenty more on that soon.

From the Editors...

Danny & Ulana Chapman

We completely underestimated the time and stress involved with buying a house, moving into it and making it yours! And yet, with the business of this life change squeezed into the middle of our summer, God gave us plenty of unexpected opportunities to stop and rest.

The best unexpected “restful” blessing for me, came on the actual moving day. We started at 10 in the morning moving our packed up apartment into a large truck with the help of family and friends. By 2 pm, we arrived at the new house in the heat of the day, sweating and exhausted. Just as we were getting a bit discouraged, Danny’s boss and his wife unexpectedly came as fresh reinforcements and helped us move all the furniture in and up the stairs. Even better, they invited everyone to their home for a

barbecue dinner and soak in their hot tub! We ended the worst, most stressful day with a great meal, a hot soak for our tired muscles, and great company.

We felt loved and taken care of that day. And that is how God wants us to feel every day — able to stop and rest in Him. We can find a more important rest, a rest for our souls when we turn to Him (see Matt 11:28–29 below). This newsletter was supposed to come out the last week in August. And that just didn’t happen. So instead of this being a summer issue about rest, it’s a summer recap issue we hope will remind us all to find time to rest in God.

Matthew 11:28-29

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

Sunday School Profile: Mrs. Sue

Carolyn Mariorenzi



When you visit the Castillo household in Cranston, the first thing you notice are the children's toys, books, and games throughout the house. The Castillos have three children, and it's clear that this house is filled with laughter and learning. Sue has a heart for kids, which is evident when she teaches Sunday School. As a Sunday School teacher, her focus is not only on teaching the day's lesson but also on sharing her own faith by living for Christ. Sue's desire is for her class to learn to trust in Jesus and obey Him.

Sue grew up in a mountain lake community in New Jersey, and when she was twelve years old, she quietly asked Jesus into her heart, but she had no one to lead or guide her as a new Christian. During her early teens she attended a youth group, but what little knowledge of God she had at the time had not penetrated to her heart—she felt numb. She knew the truth, yet it seemed to bounce off of her.

When Sue went to college, she became involved in Intervarsity Fellowship, a Christian fellowship on campus. She led a Bible study, but she still felt numb. Sue would even go so far as to walk to church, yet something was lacking. She later became involved in a co-ed fraternity, and when questioned by an Intervarsity staff member about her involvement in the group, Sue downplayed the negative impact the fraternity was having on her life. By the time Sue had graduated from college, she had stopped attending church altogether. An old Christian friend asked Sue if her conscience was bothering her at all about her lack of relationship with Jesus. Sue replied "Nope!" and absolutely meant it.

Sue had graduated with a degree in elementary education. She found a job working as a camp counselor, which led her to a new vocation: environmental education. Soon Sue was working in the

state of New York, teaching environmental education and loving the outdoor life. Then Sue was hired by the University of Rhode Island to teach the students there.

God was clearly refocusing Sue at this time. She knew that she was going to be living in R.I. for quite a while, and it was as if God was bringing her to a quiet place in South County to give her time to think about her life and the choices she'd been making. Looking back, she clearly sees that God brought her here to bring her into closer fellowship with Him. Realizing she needed to find a church fellowship to be involved in and grow in, she accepted an invitation from her brother Steve Hunter to attend Calvary Chapel Warwick in 1994. God became real to Sue and began to tug on her heart, calling her back to Him. Sue met her current husband Tony and began attending Calvary Chapel with him. Once they were married, Sue began to have a daily time of fellowship with God focused on His word, which caused immense growth in her. Even at work Sue could share with others what she was learning about Jesus. By November 1999, Sue was ready to recommit her life to Christ.

While pregnant with her first child, Sue quietly and tearfully knelt beside the piano in her living room and gave her heart back to the One who created it. Sue now says, "God is so faithful! His word is true, and He is worth living for!" Hebrews 13:8, Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever is a verse that speaks to her, because, as she says, "Jesus is my rock, and I can go to Him with anything. My situation or emotions may change, and circumstances can be challenging, yet He remains the same."

Site Seeing: GodTube

Joe Silva

It's the end of another long week, and there's nothing good at the movies. What do you do? Don't sweat it, I have an idea. Why not head to the small screen? Your computer screen that is. No doubt you have heard of the extremely popular video sharing web site, YouTube, where they encourage you to 'Broadcast Yourself'. Well, recently a fellow Christian blogger pointed me to GodTube, where you are encouraged to 'Broadcast Him'!

Their mission statement is simple: "GodTube utilizes Web based technology to connect Christians for the purpose of encouraging and advancing the Gospel worldwide." On GodTube you will find everything from music videos to apologetics to comedy and more. There is even a Calvary Chapel Channel! So go ahead, grab some popcorn, an ice-cold lemonade and point your browser to **GodTube.com**. Have fun!



Sunday School News

Beth Birkenfeld

Hello parents of our Sunday School kids!

We, the teachers and helpers of the Sunday School here at Calvary Chapel Warwick, want to thank you for trusting us with your children. Over the course of the last few months, we have been taking a closer look at our kids' ministry — giving ourselves a detailed "self-exam". Some of the questions we have been asking ourselves include:

What is the focused mission of our program?

What are our goals for the various age groups?

Is the format we use the best that it can be for each group?

What are we doing to allow our Sunday School to run as efficiently & fruitfully as possible?

With that in mind, we believe that one of the most important details of a well-run, God-directed children's ministry, is to keep

you, the parents, informed of all that is going on.

Although we are still working on some of the answers to the above listed questions, we would like to share "the heart of the Children's Church" with you....

In keeping with the mission of our adult fellowship: Loving God, Loving People, the heart of all involved in our Sunday School program is to create an environment where children feel welcomed, accepted, and loved. We take very seriously the opportunities from the Lord to relay the Gospel — the Good News to your children. Our prayer is that our efforts will bear much fruit, and that each child will choose eternal life in Jesus, our Lord, and then continue to be nurtured and grow in their faith. May this prayer be answered as we serve Him by serving them!

Thank you for your prayers. They are highly appreciated! Please look for upcoming info, informing you in more detail of the outcome of our "self-exam" in the spring newsletter! God bless!

Introducing...

Classifieds

Have clothes to give away?

A need that someone else might be able to fill?

Post it to the Chapel News classifieds!

Starting next issue, we'll be featuring classifieds. If you have something to give away, or are in need of something somebody else might have to give, please email us at: dchapman02@mac.com or, get in touch with Tanya after church!

Get involved with the Newsletter

We need: artists, writers, photographers, testimonies and most importantly, your ideas!

Stop by one of our next meetings to see how you can get involved.

Planning Meetings right after church in the sanctuary:

October 21 & November 11

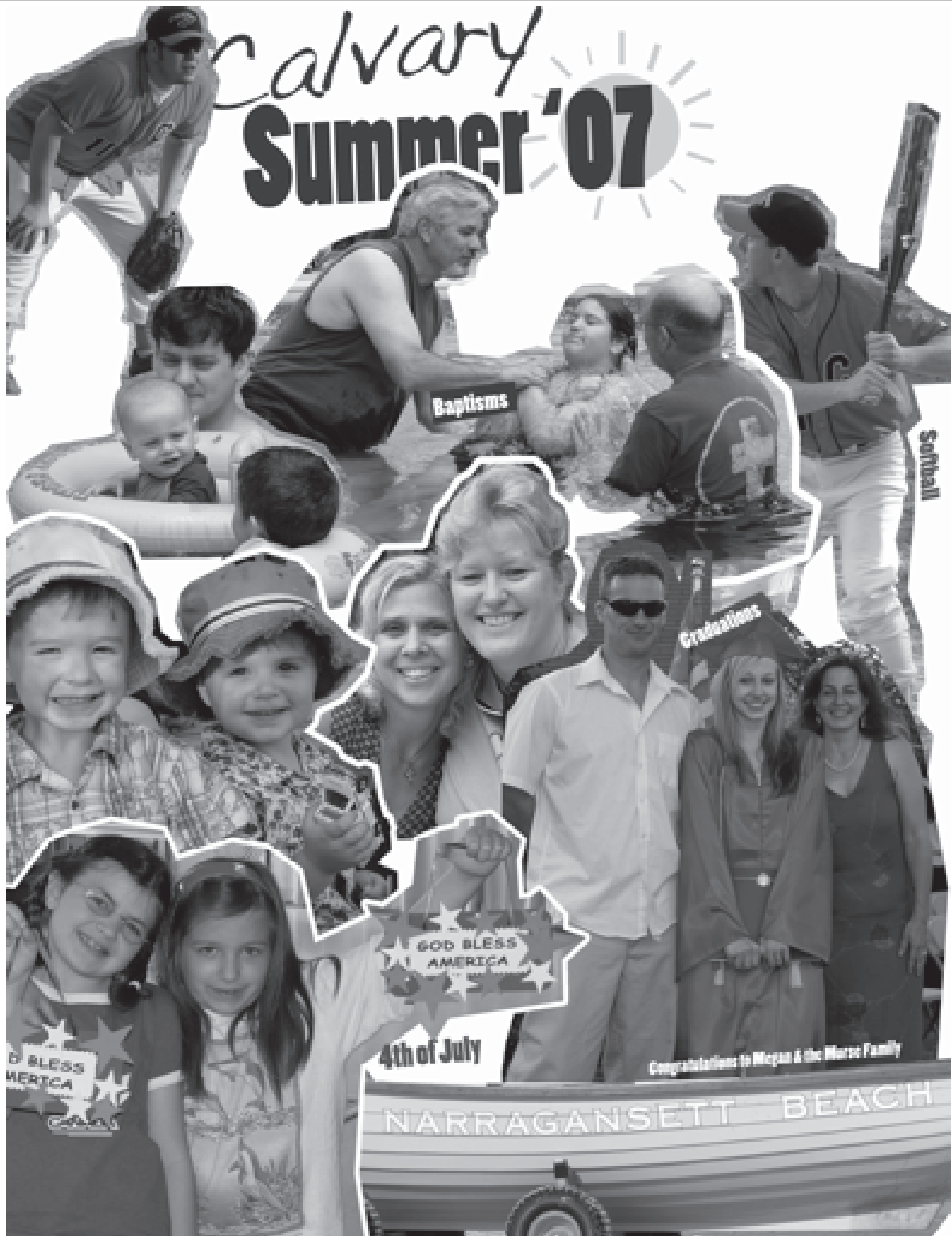
Article Submission Deadline:

November 30

Thank you to everyone who contributed! Pastor Rich, Beth Birkenfeld, Sonja Noll, Bob Dowiot, Lindsey Dowiot, Norm LeBlanc, Carolyn Mariorenzi, Joe Silva, Patrick Spieler, Amanda Towne

The opinions stated in this publication do not necessarily express the stated position of Calvary Chapel. Send comments, concerns or questions for the editor to dchapman02@mac.com. Danny & Ulana Chapman, editors.

Calvary Summer '07



Baptisms

Softball

Graduations

4th of July

Congratulations to Megan & the Morse Family

NARRAGANSETT BEACH

- Treasurer's Corner -

In keeping with this issue's theme of rest, take a minute to think about all the different things we need to rest and recover from, such as work, stress, illness, exhaustion, and so on. If we don't rest and recover, these things can affect us mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Even God took a break after six days of creating so He could rest and enjoy His work (Gen. 2:2-3). Believe it or not, the same should be done with our finances. We need to take a rest now and then so we can catch our financial breath and enjoy what we already have.

Why do we need to do that?

Well, like anything else, if we push our finances too hard, they start to overheat and break down. In other words, if our lifestyle requires every cent of our income, we're revving our cash engine to the breaking point—and the best way to avoid a blown engine is to back off the gas pedal now and then. Another good reason to take a rest is so we can separate what we really need from what we simply want. We're usually naturally drawn to the things we want but not always to the things we need. It is always good to think carefully before we buy something. "Of what use is money in the hand of a fool, since he has

no desire to get wisdom?" Proverbs 17:16

So, how do we take a financial break when the bills just keep coming?

There are many ways to give ourselves a monetary breather; some are automatic, and some take careful planning. One small way is to alternate our lifestyle one week per month. During this week eat breakfast or make coffee at home instead of stopping at the doughnut shop, do not buy any impulse items at the store checkout, and spend the weekend doing no-cost family activities (like playing board games at the kitchen table). The money saved can be put aside for a small trip, used to pay debts, saved for retirement or education, or can just be put into a rainy-day fund. In the long run, you may find that the things you gave up for one week really aren't that important, and you may even be able to do without them for a whole year. "Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labor on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and your soul will delight in the richest of fare". Isaiah 55:2

On a bigger scale you can decide to only vacation every other year, or to only do major home improvements every three

years. This will give you time to save up the needed money between projects or vacations, which is much easier than making loan payments with interest.

An even easier and more automatic way to rest your finances is to take advantage of the months with 5 weeks in them, which happens every 3 months. Mathematically, 4 weeks times 12 months is 48 weeks, but of course there are 52 weeks in a year. That means that every 3 months there must be one extra week to add up to 52, and the extra week means an extra paycheck. If you can make your expense budget work in the 4-week months, then it will be like getting a bonus check in each of the 5-week months. This extra check can be put to all kinds of good uses. But if the fifth check is already spent on routine bills, you will not experience the bonus week.

The more we do these things, the more financially fit we become. Just like our bodies and minds, alternating between periods of payment (work) and rest will keep us healthy and wise.

Norman LeBlanc, C.P.A.

Congratulations to Jonathan & Heidi!

