



Calvert City Church of Christ

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Have You Ever Heard of Richard DeCosmis?

Have you ever found out something about a person you thought you knew, whether it be a secret talent, interesting background, or fascinating story from their past? Part of what makes life so interesting is that people have the endless ability to surprise us. Sometimes, however, we uncover remarkable examples of this.

Richard DeCosmis died in 2015. He had a 30-year-career as a police officer, but the man produced over 100 paintings and drawings the last quarter-century of his life. He apparently painted them in seclusion, "a self taught painter, a total outsider in the art world" (Marsha Froliak, heatst.com). He did not follow "any formal academic principle in painting," but his works are increasingly being not only hailed as brilliant but "gaining traction in the art world." There was a curated showing of 170 of his paintings in New York last month. His paintings are being sold in Connecticut, New York, and his native New Jersey.

Perhaps he will come to be known as a great American painter. But, during his lifetime, he literally kept that considerable talent buried to all but his closest friends.

I am convinced that in our churches and on our pews are people full of untapped potential. We have great soul-winners, song writers, Bible class teachers, book writers, preachers, church leaders, church growers, encouragers, and more, and many of them don't know it or are afraid to step out and show it. God gives to each of us abilities (1 Cor. 12:4-11; Rom. 12:3ff; Mat. 25:14ff). We can bury these and do nothing to grow and cultivate them, to our own everlasting reproach. We may not be have our mentors or encouragers to prod and prompt us, but we should all spend some time in personal reflection. We should ask, "What is it that He wants me to do and that I can do with I've been given to grow the kingdom?" Sitting next to you may be a person ultimately responsible for numberless many going to heaven. You know what, the person next to you may be sitting next to the same kind of person!

We are not seeking a spotlight or self-glorification. Yet, we have a limited time to make use of what God's given us to do His work on earth.

Who knows? We may even surprise ourselves by stepping out of our comfort zones and using our abilities to win the lost and help the saved! Let's all work on growing our body of spiritual work! Eternity will tell the tale of it.
—Neal Pollard

Elders

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Deacons

Leslie Bean
Ronnie Cox
Nick Darnell
Larry Davis
Ross Dougherty
Kyle Farris
Jeff Hall
Mark Hart
Kevin Hunt
Jamie Leonard
Dale Roberts
Gary Smith
Barry Travis
Jackie Travis

Preachers

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Dates to Remember:

December 8—Caring Cooks
December 9—Youth Movie Night
December 11—KFC Activity 4:30 p.m.
December 12—MNftM
December 29—Blood Drive
December 31—New Year's Eve Fellowship

A Pause . . . And Reflection

Thank you so much for your wonderful cooperation in Packing the Pulpit! Because of your diligence and generosity, we were able to accumulate twice as many items as we have in the past, and no additional purchases will have to be made (as has been true in the past). It was so encouraging to see people bring things as one; to see our children pitch in and help carry sacks down front; and finally, it was so wonderful to see the form of the gifts take the general shape of horns of plenty as they cascaded over the pulpit area. Again, thank you; thank you!

We are beginning to think about the blood drive that will be held on December 29th. First, this is always a vital time of year for blood. Accidents, especially require a great stockpile during this time. Secondly, the drive falls into a time-frame where many people are off work and can participate. I urge you to consider it if you will be off that day of week.

In the next column, you will see a notice of intent to rake leaves this Saturday. The leaves have stayed up for awhile, but it is time to help those who need our help. We would like for it to be a family affair, if possible. Dads and moms, bring your kids and spend a few hours doing something for someone else. Yes, this weekend looks to be cold, but work will warm you up! (So will the feeling of satisfaction of helping others.) Bring whatever yard equipment you and your family will need, and come and give a few of hours of your time to help someone else!

I hope you have a great week. —Lance

Ancient Truths for Modern Times

WCKK, FM—95.7

Sundays 9:00 a.m.

Speakers: Lance Cordle & Gary Knuckles

Birthdays: December 11-17

- ◆ December 13—Jeff Hall
Logan Parker
- ◆ December 14—Linda Smith
- ◆ December 15—Joy Farris
Dorothy Hall
Barbara Owen
- ◆ December 16—Kensley Hall
- ◆ December 17—Mark Borden

New Year's Eve Fellowship

The congregation's annual New Year's Eve Fellowship will be Saturday, December 31 at the Activities Building beginning at 6 p.m. Please bring finger foods, desserts and 2 liter soft drinks. Don't forget to bring your card and board games too!

Family Service Opportunity!

Leaf-Raking

Saturday, December 10

Parents and children are urged to come and rake leaves together. We will move as large group, yard to yard.

Meet at Activities building, 8:00 a.m.

Bring rakes, blowers, etc.



Remember in Prayer:

Dot Morehead—recently diagnosed with breast cancer, recovering from surgery and awaiting news regarding further treatment.

Home:

Charles Allen, Nelda Beth, Norman Bradford, Danny Butler, Carlos Cruz, Richard Darnell, Billie Davis, Jimmy Davis, Robert & Modean Driver, Charlotte Evans, Cindy Grubbs, Dawn Lisanby, James Metheny, Rudell & Ernestine Noles, Brenda Williams

Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

Brookdale (Paducah)—**John Main**
CCCCtr—**Betty Clark, Eedra Dossett, Sue Owen, Bobbie Travis**
Stilley House—**Ed Odell, Ralph Steury**

Military: **Cory O'Bryan**



**Blood Drive
Thursday, December 29**

**Activities Building
12:30-5:30 p.m.**

Don't forget that there is an urgent need for blood during the holiday season.

**Record:
December 4, 2016**

Mid-Week (November 30)	145
Sunday Bible Study	180
Sunday Morning Worship	255
Sunday Evening Worship	137
Contribution	\$11,696

A Tool in His Hand

What do Caesar Augustus, Herod the Great, and Archelaus all have in common? Briefly stated, they were all Roman rulers who wielded a great deal of power in the early years of the First Century. However, in a broader scope, all of them were used to fulfill God's prophetic words regarding Jesus Christ.

Augustus declared a taxation requiring all to register in their ancestral cities. Such an edict led Joseph to travel 60 miles south with Mary, where she fulfilled Micah's prophecy that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. Herod's threat against the children, forced the family to flee to Egypt. Their return, according to Mt. 2:14, fulfilled the word of the prophet who quoted God as saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." After Herod's death, his son, Archelaus, still posed a threat to Jesus, so Joseph took his family to Nazareth fulfilling another prophecy that the Messiah would be called a Nazarene (Mat. 2:23).

God can certainly use righteous rulers like Josiah or Hezekiah to bring about great reforms. He can also use evil religious leaders like Saul to disperse the church in order to expand evangelism, and then call him to be a missionary for the same purpose. Some of the worst rulers throughout history have merely opened doors for the kingdom of God to expand world wide.

We can have complete trust in our God; He does all things well. Never fear the details! Never doubt His power! Never fail to see the opportunities! Remember, it is not so much the caliber of the tool, but the creativity of the artist, that produces the masterpiece.

—Don Loftis

**Pew Packers @ 5:45 p.m.
December 11**

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study — 9:15 a.m.
Worship — 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship — 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Mid-Week Bible Study—7:00 p.m.

Bible Classes For All Ages

Those Who Are To Serve:

Sunday, December 11, 2016

10:00 A.M.

Song Leader: Ben Leonard
Opening Prayer: Ross Dougherty
Closing Prayer: Joel Wommack
Convalescent Center: David Lineberry
Billy Walker

6:00 p.m.

Song Leader: Gayle Hall
Opening Prayer: Jared Hall
Closing Prayer: Barry Travis

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Announcements: Jeff Hall
Song Leader: Jared Higginbotham
Opening Prayer: Glenn Davis
Closing Prayer: Larry Wynn