



Rev. Calvin Culpepper

Associate Pastor

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Calvin Culpepper's first spiritual milestone was when he was twelve years of age. A Baptist preacher made a formal invitation to *"accept Jesus into your life as personal Savior."* Calvin says: "For the first time, after hearing many invitations, this one seemed personal-- *"Calvin, will you let me (JESUS) in?"* He remembers trying to stay seated, but Jesus seemed so real to him that he stood up and walked to the altar, and said, "YES" to JESUS! He celebrated his conversion with a water baptism later that week which his mother witnessed.

Calvin's next spiritual milestone was his marriage to Gwendolyn (Gwen) on November 19, 1975. Together they recommitted to Jesus Christ and to the life of the local Church. The couple (Gwen and Cal) made a prenuptial agreement to begin their married life on the solid foundation of faith. Cal's next pivotal milestones were the births of their three children, Caleb, Cambron, and Vine.

In February 1997, shortly after arriving in Elgin, the Culpeppers began worshipping at Faith United Methodist Church downtown Elgin. Pastor Don Keck enlisted Cal's services in worship and Disciple Bible Study and the rest is history. Faith UMC merged with Plato Center UMC and together with a few from other congregations, became Cornerstone UMC. Calvin served as a Local Pastor and then in 2004 became a full-Time Local Pastor working toward Ordination. In June of 2009, Calvin became commissioned as a United Methodist

Pastor, with all rights and privileges.

Calvin sends his solemn wishes as follows: “I pray that every person God sends Cornerstone’s way:

- ✦ will be *informed* of God’s love and purpose for their lives
- ✦ will be *inspired* to seek God’s will for their service to the Church and the world
- ✦ that they be *engaged* in God’s ministry where they LIVE!”