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Bibliography

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Church gives glimpse of 'castle'

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Ben Conley

March 27--The former Good Counsel Friary and current home of Calvary Chapel Morgantown, on Tyrone Road, has been one of the Morgantown area's most unique and identifiable landmarks since master stonemason Thoney Pietro built the structures in 1933 for the modern equivalent of \$3.6 million.

Calvary Chapel Pastor Shawn Frasher said curiosity is a common reaction to seeing the property's centerpiece stone castle for the first time. Because of this, and because of the property's spiritual heritage in the area, the church has invited the community to an open house from 2-4 p.m. Saturday.

With a laundry list of restorations complete on the 23-room castle structure, Frasher said the church wanted to give the community an opportunity to get a look at the building before it becomes the church's parsonage and his family moves in.

"The actual castle-looking structure has not been occupied for 10 to 12 years," Frasher said. "We've spent the last year and a half restoring all the electric, all the plumbing, we've restored the floors and any interior damage that was present. But before we occupy it, we want to give people an opportunity to have a look at it, because it really is an incredible structure."

According to The Dominion Post archives, Calvary Chapel purchased the property in 2012 for \$1.5 million.

Frasher said he's not sure what to expect of the open house.

"This property is such a historic component of Morgantown and it has a long spiritual heritage in our community," Frasher said. "It's had an impact on so many lives here and we just want the community to be able to see what we've done with it."

Frasher requested that anyone wishing to come to the open house RSVP to the church office, 304-777-3155.

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