

IMPORTANT CALVARY NEWS – JULY 2020

NEW OUTREACH INITIATIVES AND NEW WORSHIP SERVICE TIME

Several exciting initiatives are underway in the life of Calvary Baptist Church. Under the leadership of Pastor Rendell with the blessing of the leadership team at Calvary, our church will be making some improvements and updates in the way we present ourselves to our community. As we envision what God has in store for Calvary's future, we recognize the need to create a fresh approach in communicating with those who might consider visiting Calvary for worship. We want everyone to know about the unique Baptist body in West Asheville known as Calvary. Communicating who we are, what makes us unique, and what we value will be vital as we seek to reach out to our community for Christ in the days ahead. All the items listed below have been done at no financial cost to the church.

~ **A** new church logo which retains our “cross and dogwood flower” identity, but with a fresh look. The logo will include a new “tag line” which uniquely summarizes what we are about at Calvary.

~ **A** new, modern church website designed especially so that potential guests can “see who we are” before visiting

~ **A** new URL (domain name) for Calvary. The new, shorter URL (calvarync.org) will replace the current URL (calvaryasheville.com). New e-mail addresses for all office staff will be available. This will also make it easier for guests to find us on the web.

~ **New** semi-permanent signs will point guests into Calvary. Signage around the building, on the street, and over major entrances will help guests find Calvary as they enter our campus, park, and make their way into our worship space.

~ **A** new look for our Sunday bulletin (Order of Worship) and our newsletter (CrossPoints). The new look will help give us a fresh look, will be more readable, easier to produce, more efficient, and easier for church members and guests to use.

This new look will begin to take place on Sunday, August 2. While these efforts are only a small part of what lies ahead of Calvary in our renewal, they are not insignificant. They are an important step in telling others about this unique Baptist congregation called Calvary and inviting others into a life of “following Jesus” and “friending the world” for the sake of the Gospel.

Also, **beginning August 2, Calvary's worship service will begin at 10:30 am instead of 11:00 am.** This will be a permanent change regardless of what happens with state guidelines regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Assuming we meet on August 2 and following, our service will begin at 10:30 am. If state guidelines change and we need to cancel services on or before August 2, we will meet at 10:30 whenever we resume worship. This change will be beneficial for a number of reasons:

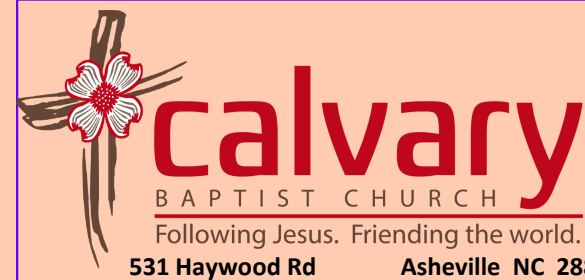
~ **As** we reach out to invite others to Calvary, it will be easier for our guests to find their way into Calvary if our service begins at a time that does not align with Missio Dei, our sister church on campus. Guests will have an easier time finding our Sanctuary since there will be less activity from our sister church in the parking lots, sidewalks, and entryways.

~ **It** will help lessen the impact of vehicle traffic and foot traffic “crossing paths” when our sister church, Missio Dei, begins meeting again on August 2. Their services are 9:00 and 11:00 am. With our service being at 10:30, we will “cross paths” with fewer people, thus limiting the potential for COVID-19 exposure.

~ **A** 10:30 am service still allows ample time for Sunday School once we resume. We do not yet know when we will resume Sunday School, but when we do, it will likely begin around 9:15 or 9:30 am. We will inform you about that decision as we get closer to fully opening at some time in the future.

Also, room 403 (Pat's Sunday School class) off the “café” area behind the sanctuary will soon be upfitted to be our Children's room for Sunday mornings. As we have children in worship, this room will provide a space for them to receive Bible teaching during the Sunday sermon time. Parents can easily access this room since it is just off the sanctuary.

Please continue to seek God's future for Calvary. As long as we are seeking God's plan for us, keeping our attention focused on growing His Kingdom, worshipping Him in spirit and truth, seeking guidance from His written word, and listening to His Spirit, we can fully trust that all will be well. Glory to God, Amen!



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The Monthly Newsletter of Calvary Baptist Church

CrossPoints

August 2020



From the Pastor...

Few of us could have imagined back in January or February of this year where we are today: four months into a global pandemic called “COVID-19” with no sign that the season we are in will somehow be short-lived. All signs are that we will need to “hunker down” for months more, likely well into the early part of 2021. We grieve with those who have suffered loss: loss of job, loss of income, loss of health, loss of stability, or worst of all, loss of a loved one. Yet, even though we are in the midst of what will no doubt be one of the most difficult seasons in the recent history of the world, Calvary Baptist Church has been “being church” to the best of her ability. Here are a few examples:

Calvary has been caring for her own. Through the care provided to you by your deacons, by fellow church members, by your church staff, and namely by Butch Stillwell, you have received care and concern. Through phone calls, visits when possible, prayers, cards, and other connections, the church has cared for her own. In the middle of a global pandemic.

Calvary's leadership team made plans to meet again for worship. Effective plans were made and executed to help keep members who choose to attend as safe as possible. Under the guidance of your deacon chair, Pat Stillwell, worship services resumed here at Calvary back in June. The church assembled again for that which we crave so fully: the corporate worship of our Lord. In the middle of a global pandemic.

Calvary called a new pastor. Through the work of your search committee, and as the result of your prayers, Kelly and I answered your call to come to Calvary. God's direction in our own lives was clear, as it seems was his direction in the work of the committee. You called a new pastor who is excited to shepherd and lead this sweet congregation. In the middle of a global pandemic.

Calvary has worshipped our Lord on Sunday morning using the gifts of vocalists and musicians in some fresh ways. We have expanded our worship experience on Sundays, pulling in some newer music along side older favorites. We have focused our attention on the reading and preaching of the Scriptures, lifting high the name of Jesus. We have seen responses to God's movement among us on Sundays, including one precious young man age nine who came forward to accept Christ as his Savior and to request to be baptized. In the middle of a global pandemic.

And, now, we are embarking on a new outreach initiative which will involve changing our service time to 10:30 am beginning August 2, clarifying our core values as a congregation, launching a new website designed to communicate who we are at Calvary with those who might be looking for a church, recreating our church logo, putting up signs around the church to help guests find Calvary's sanctuary and welcome center, providing specific spaces in the front parking lot off Haywood road outside the bell tower front entrance for guest parking, and preparing to welcome guests to worship. In the middle of a global pandemic.

None of us knows what tomorrow will hold nor how long the pandemic will last. But, for a church of primarily older adults who might be inclined to believe that their options are limited -- that they should play it safe and just wait out not only the pandemic but the remainder of their church years in the safety and security of what is easy and known, you have undertaken some great things. In the middle of a global pandemic.

Let's keep trusting and let's keep doing what God has called us to do. Let's keep “following Jesus and friending the world.” That is the right thing to do no matter when... even, no especially... in the middle of a global pandemic.

Blessings in Christ, Pastor Rendell

Pastoral Care Encouragement

Over the past 5 months, I have encountered many things with our folks who have 'stayed home and stayed safe'. The two things that have stood out the most are seeing folks in a facility that could only hold their hand to the glass touching my hand on the other side of the glass and phone calls of folks being confined to their own home. As a minister of the gospel of Jesus Christ, I pray hard to reach them and give them hope in their situations. I remember many Scriptures, but the one that sticks out the most is this one:

"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. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."
(Matthew 11:28-30)

When I hold my hand to the glass against their hand, I ask our Lord to be with them in times of feeling weary and burdened. And, in our conversations on the phone, they discuss their faith in the Lord and how reaching out in prayer has helped them find rest for their souls. They talk about the peace of the Lord, beyond all understanding. I continue to feel privileged and honored to be on the other side of the glass and the phone because I know the Lord is with them, as well, He is with me. During this Pandemic and our world being turned upside down, let's remember the words of our Lord in Matthew 11:28-30. They will help us move forward.

Blessings, Butch

Deacon for August

Pat Stillwell 828-337-3500
Cell 828-665-3032

Ushers for August

Pat Stillwell
Linda Farlow

Rendell Hipps

Senior Pastor
828-228-8639

Jim Burnett

Minister of Music

Sam Hocking

Church Host

Butch Stillwell

Pastoral Care Minister
828-768-8313

Dianna Wyatt

Office Manager
828-253-7301

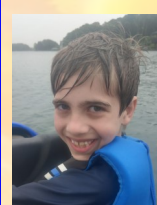
calvarync.org

Our new logo maintains the symbol of the cross and dogwood flower that is so special to Calvary. This logo will be used in all our publications, on our website, on signs around the church, and in other ways as we seek to reach out to our community in the name of Christ and to spread the word about our wonderfully unique church.



MINISTER ON CALL

Rendell and Butch will be sharing Pastoral duties on the weekends and have set up a schedule, at least through August. Each weekend consists of Friday/Saturday/Sunday. The calendar insert indicates who your point of contact is for that weekend. What a blessing to have two great men of God to lead, shepherd and council our Calvary family.



Calvary celebrates with the Nix family! Daniel Nix came forward on Sunday, July 19 to make a public profession of his faith in Jesus. He will be baptized here at Calvary very soon. We rejoice in his decision and commit to helping his family as they disciple Daniel in the way of Jesus. Daniel is the son of Adam and Katie Nix who shared: Daniel is 9 years old. He has grown up at Calvary Baptist, since his baby dedication in 2011. His parents are Adam and Katie Nix, and he has a sister Maggie. His grandparents are Dan and Debbie Nix, and his great grandmother is Peggy Ramsey. Daniel is the 6th generation of the family to be baptised at Calvary. Daniel loves to play sports. His favorite being basketball. Daniel and his family are big Duke fans. Daniel also loves all things history. We are all so proud of him.

Sunday Morning Prayer Time

Please join us for prayer before each worship service at 10:00 am in the sanctuary as we pray for God's powerful blessing in worship and for our church.

Upcoming Sermon Series

Beginning August 30, Pastor Rendell will be preaching an eight-week message series entitled "Living Like Jesus." Be sure to invite friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, and anyone you meet to be part of this message series as we re-discover what it means to be a people characterized by "Living Like Jesus."

Children at Calvary

Every second and fourth Sunday, we will be offering a "Children's Church" experience for kids on Sunday morning during the pastor's message in room 403 behind the sanctuary. Masks are required for children and adults. Children may leave the sanctuary immediately before the message by one of our children's leaders at the piano exit.

Ministry Opportunity

Volunteer at Montmorenci UMC, Candler, to help distribute food to those in need. Sign-up at Hands On Asheville (HandsOnAsheville.org) to help with this.

**Worship moves to 10:30 am
beginning August 2**

PRAYER CORNER

Karen Bartlett
Evelyn Boone (Sarah McGinnis)
Calvary Baptist Church
Juanita Clark
Sandra Crosslin (Neva's sister)
Mary Ruth Duyck
Kim Fravert (Margo Snedden)
Camden Green (Janie's granddaughter)
Rick Green
Neva Hancock
Diane Helm (Jean Rice)
Donna Hilemon
Rendell & Kelly Hipps
Robert & Fran Horton
Belinda Jenkins (Jean Rice)
Linda Keeling (Jean Rice)
Evelyne Maney (home)
Sarah McGinnis
Edith Middleton
Peggy Nichols
Annette Perkins
Roberta Petree
Peggy Ramsey
Jean Rice
Pam Rice
Tracy Rice (Jean Rice)
Lewis & Geanna Rollins (home)
Guy Sayles
Sheila Sibeot (Jean Rice)
Debbie Smallan
Madison Stevens (Bill Stevens)
Phillip Taylor (Betty Carter)
Ed (son in law Donna Tennant)
Rose Walker (Robbie Walker)
Don Welborn (Home)
Perry Wyatt (Eddie Wyatt)
Rachel Queen

Please let the office know if you have prayer concerns to add or remove. Your Calvary family would like to pray it through with you.



It's Time Yes, its only July but now is the time to begin thinking about purchasing items for our annual Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes. Stores are beginning to put their school supplies on sale. Those pens, pencils, spiral notebooks, crayons, rulers, erasers, scissors. are excellent items to place in shoeboxes. So now is the time to stock up on those items we will need in a few months to fill boxes for children.

Operation Christmas Child **Ideas for the shoeboxes:**

Toys: Cars and trucks, Yo-yos, Jump Ropes, Balls, Stuffed Animals, Dolls, Musical instruments, Finger puppets, Small etch-a-sketch, Dinosaurs

School Supplies: Pens, Pencils and sharpeners, Crayons, Markers, Notebooks, Paper, Coloring books, Rulers, Picture books, Solar calculators

Accessories: T-shirts, Socks, Hats, Sunglasses, Hair Clips, Jewelry, Flashlights with batteries, Watches

Non-liquid Hygiene Items: Toothbrushes, Bar soap, Combs, Hair brushes, Washcloths