



Philippians:  
The Good News of the Gospel  
Seven-week Message Series  
through March 14

If you are not able to be with us in worship, join us either on-line ([calvarync.org/messages](http://calvarync.org/messages)) or on our Facebook page. Services are available on-line each Sunday evening.

**NEXT MESSAGE SERIES: (Mis)Understanding God**

March 21	(Re)Imagining God's Reign
March 28	(Not)Forsaken by God
April 4 ( <i>Easter</i> )	(Un)Believable News
April 11	(Re)Defining Love



531 Haywood Rd  
Asheville, NC 28806

FIND US AT  
[calvarync.org](http://calvarync.org)



## Kids At Calvary

### Volunteer News

Thank you to all who serve our kids and their families by volunteering in our nursery and during Children's Church. Nursery volunteers should be sure to be in place by 10:15 am. If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please contact someone else on the schedule and arrange to swap dates with them, and please let Kelly know of your change ([kids@calvarync.org](mailto:kids@calvarync.org) or 828-729-6793).

### Kids Ringing In Worship

Our kids are preparing to "ring" their musical bells during worship on Palm Sunday, March 28. Rehearsals will take place during Children's Church.

### Coming Soon!

Other kids activities this spring and summer will be announced as we can again safely gather. Watch for details.

### Periodicals

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# CrossPoints

The Monthly Newsletter of Calvary Baptist Church

— March 2021 —



## From the Pastor...

"Beware the Ides of March!" I'm not much for William Shakespeare, but I do recall reading Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* in my senior year English literature class. Did you? The term 'ides' refers to the first full moon in a given month. In ancient Rome, the "ides of March", or March 15, included a feast to "the goddess of the year" and was a day of celebration which resulted in lots of drinking and revelry.

In our culture, the Ides of March is best known as the date on which Julius Caesar was assassinated in 44 BC. He was stabbed to death in a meeting of the Roman Senate. Brutus and Cassius (remember them?) led the conspiracy against Julius Caesar, along with 60 other co-conspirators. According to the story, Caesar had been warned that harm would come to him no later than the Ides of March.

Caesar's death marked the closing event in the ongoing battle for power within the Roman Republic. It triggered a civil war that would result in the rise to power of Augustus (Octavian) Caesar who ruled during the time when Jesus was born (Luke 2:1). To avenge the death of Julius Caesar, Augustus executed 300 senators four years following Julius' death, also on March 15, the Ides of March. The executions took place on a new altar dedicated to the *deified* Julius Caesar.

We read these accounts of ancient Rome—the struggle for power, the revelry, the murder, the civil unrest, the horrors of civil war, the deification of their rulers—and we find them to be almost foreign to us in so many ways. We want to believe that society has "matured" — that we have outgrown such shenanigans. But have we?

Jesus entered *this* world, the one described in *Julius Caesar*. He lived in *this* world. His disciples followed him in *this* world. He taught about the Kingdom of God in *this* world. He claimed to be Messiah in *this* world. And many expected him to behave like those of *this* world. But he did not.

The way Jesus demonstrated what it meant to gain power and influence as not to take up swords and annihilate the Romans, not to teach his disciples now to fight and win, not to plot against those who were in power. The way Jesus demonstrated what it meant to gain power and influence was to teach "Blessed are the merciful... blessed are the meek... blessed are the peacemakers... blessed are the poor in spirit." The way Jesus demonstrated what it meant to gain power and influence was to stand before Pilate and before Herod and, without opening his mouth to defend himself, be beaten and flogged, to be insulted and spat on, to be given a cross to carry to his own crucifixion, and to die.

The Roman Empire and all of the Caesars who ruled it came crashing down long ago. But the message of Jesus — his words and actions and impact — they continue to this day with more effect than any Caesar in any era, from any nation, could have ever dreamed of securing.

"Beware the Ides of March" has given way to another saying, a saying of the Church that is more than just a saying, it is the declaration of the Gospel. We say it at Easter, but we can say it every day and know that it has changed the world for all of eternity. It is this: "He is Risen!"

And let us all follow the way of Jesus, the way of the Cross, the way of the Kingdom of God, because in the end, it is the way to Resurrection and Eternal Life. And God is the author of *that* story.

**"I PETER — A LIVING HOPE" WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY**

**Postponed — Look for future dates**





### NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

The new church directory will be available March 21st. We will print enough for each family to have one and will print more as needed. If you receive your directory and realize that the information is incorrect or missing all together, please contact the office and will make corrections. Your church family doesn't want to miss your birthday, anniversary, or other important life events. Emails are great and physical addresses are important too. If you are new to Calvary in the last 12 months, please call or email the office with information for the directory.

Also, due to the unpredictable mail delivery, we are adjusting our **CROSSPOINTS SCHEDULE**. The deadline is now the 10th of each month to ensure we get it in your hands before the first of the next month. Please let us know if your are not getting your CrossPoints either mailed or emailed.

### RENOVATIONS ARE UNDERWAY ON THE CALVARY CAMPUS



The old "café" area behind our sanctuary is being renovated and up-fitted to be the hub of activity on Sunday mornings here at Calvary. The rendering above shows the basic plan for the space. Once the project is fully funded, we will be able to complete the work and begin using this space each Sunday as we gather together for fellowship with one another over a coffee/OJ and a doughnut. Thanks to the team who is working hard on planning this project: Annette Perkins, John Buckner, Janie Greene, Kelly Hipps, and Rendell Hipps.

### Inclement Weather Announcements

In the event of church closing or cancellation of worship services due to inclement weather, check our website ([calvarync.org](http://calvarync.org)) or our Facebook page. We will also make the announcement by phone via our phone tree. We will not be announcing closing on TV or radio.

### Sign-up for our Phone Tree

Get in the loop! If you have not previously registered your phone number with us to be placed on our Phone Tree, please call the church office at 828-253-7301 or e-mail the office at [office@calvarync.org](mailto:office@calvarync.org). The phone tree features weekly messages from our ministers, important church news, and prayer requests for our church family.

### "A Year of Giving..." Pastoral Care Encouragement

This year we will continue to reflect on *giving* as a church and the different aspects of it as a Christian. Each month I will share stories of our members that I have observed or that they have humbly shared with me. In December of 1996, the church received a call from the Baptist Men's Association saying that they were in need of the help of men in Homestead, Florida to rebuild homes that had been damaged by a hurricane. A group of men, including myself, left on December 26 and headed for Homestead, Florida. When we arrived at a boy's camp that was set up for the helpers, we were assigned several homes to work on in teams of three to four. On most days we were able to work for ten hours. We took out kitchen cabinets, repaired doors and did many other home repair projects. The group I was in worked on Miss Augusta's home. She had had no electricity for two years, but her neighbor allowed her to run drop cords from their house to hers. She was so grateful for such a good neighbor. For us men it was a blessing to serve. She watched us and shared her hardships as we worked. During our time there, we worked hard, prayed hard, laughed hard at times, and thanked God for being able to give back to a family in need. There is one thing that has stuck in my mind all these years... the last day we were there Miss Augusta said, "Before all of you came I had no hope, now I have hope." My point is this: Jesus gives us hope to share in many situations, to reach out loving hands just like we did to a woman we did not even know. He may not send you to Florida, but He will open a door to share the gospel in many ways – trust Him! Have a good month, Butch

### SOME CALVARY SERVANTS OF NOTE

The Leadership Team welcomes **Bruce Morgan** as the chair. Bruce brings a wealth of church leadership experience along with a heart for the Lord and His church to the task.

We again want to say a huge THANK YOU to **Sam Hocking** for his many years of service as our church building host. Sam retired from this position beginning January 2021. Let's all be sure to express our deep gratitude to Sam for his selfless service to Calvary.

**New video equipment** has been installed in our sanctuary for recording our worship services. This will bring better video and audio quality to the recordings that we post to Facebook and our website. Thanks to Jared Gardner for assisting our pastor with this project.

*In Sympathy for the loss of.....*

Anita Smith lost her Aunt in Arkansas January 24th. After an extended illness. Please pray for peace and comfort for this family.



### Watch Our Services On-Line

Miss a Sunday? Want to share our Sunday services with someone who could not be here? Videos of our services are available at [calvarync.org](http://calvarync.org). Just click on "Sunday Messages" from the media menu.

**Thank you for your faithfulness to Calvary Baptist Church and the finances needed to maintain our ministries and facility. God is honoring your attention to the work here.**

*"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*  
" 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

### JOIN OUR SUNDAY MORNING PRAYER TEAM

Thank you to those who miss our Sunday worship service to pray for our Pastor and staff, our congregation, our service and those on our Prayer List. If you would like to join the prayer team to pray during our worship service, please contact Butch at 828-768-8313 or [care@calvarync.org](mailto:care@calvarync.org).

*Please remember to date your tithe and offering checks with 2021*

A BIG "thank you" to **Pat Stillwell** and **Melody Bell** for working with Dianna on the new Church Directory. We still have several email addresses, phone numbers and birthday /anniversary dates missing or incorrect. Call the office or email your information to [office@calvarync.org](mailto:office@calvarync.org)

### Your Giving Counts

Thank you for your faithfulness to Calvary and the finances that are needed to support our ministries and maintain our facility. God is honoring your attention to the work here at Calvary.

### CONTACT US

[info@calvarync.org](mailto:info@calvarync.org)  
Office: 828-253-7301

### Rendell Hipps

Senior Pastor  
[pastor@calvarync.org](mailto:pastor@calvarync.org)  
828-228-8639 (m)

### Butch Stillwell

Pastoral Care Minister  
[care@calvarync.org](mailto:care@calvarync.org)  
828-768-8313 (m)

### Jim Burnett

Minister of Music  
[music@calvarync.org](mailto:music@calvarync.org)  
828-337-5592 (m)

### Dianna Wyatt

Office Manager  
[office@calvarync.org](mailto:office@calvarync.org)  
828-253-7301 (o)

### Jared Gardner

Worship and Technology Intern  
[technology@calvarync.org](mailto:technology@calvarync.org)