



Worship Team has Community Outreach during Prayer Vigil

As our church family was praying during our 24-hour prayer vigil, our worship team was on the front steps of Calvary sharing the love, light, and message of Christ through song. This outreach to our community was not intended to be a concert, but rather a simple way to be a beacon of light to passers-by and show that our "doors are open." We hope to have another similar event soon!



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 or 828-729-6793).



"Let the little children come to me..."
Matthew 19:14, NIV



531 Haywood Rd
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The Monthly Newsletter of Calvary Baptist Church

— August 2021 —



From the Pastor...



I was recently talking about spiritual matters with a gentleman in the West Asheville community. As we talked about the challenges of life, he said to me "I don't know what my purpose is." That is a difficult place to be. This gentleman does not have any family. He is not connected with a church family. He is retired. We talked. I shared how God gives purpose and meaning through our personal faith in Jesus Christ. And I believe that to be true one hundred percent of the time for one hundred percent of the people on this planet. Yet, it's a good question: what is our purpose? While I cannot speculate as to his specific purpose, nor to your specific purpose, I can try to give some broad guidance as to our purpose.

Our first purpose is simply to LIVE. That might sound strange, but there is purpose just in our living. Life itself not only has purpose, it is purpose. Life is fragile, more so than we realize most days. And, so long as we have life in us, our purpose is to simply live. To live is to be present for whatever it is that is next in life, the easy and the hard. If we are alive, we have purpose, because living is itself, inherently, purpose. God said "Let there be LIFE! And there was LIFE. And LIFE was good, purposeful in and of itself."

Our second purpose is to LOVE. We can *love people* and find our purpose. Even if our families are small or non-existent, even if we have few close friends, even if we are not connected to a large community, we can love others. We can love someone we pass on the street. We can find someone to love, someone we can show love to. Love is an action. And, we can *love God* and find our purpose. To love God is to understand that God is Love and that He loves us. To love God is not to romanticize a relationship with God, but rather, to love the things God loves and the people God loves. To love God is to see the depth of His love for us: Jesus Christ crucified and raised from the dead. Jesus said "Love God and love your neighbor as yourself." Purpose is found when we love.

Our third purpose is to LEARN. We are never too old to learn, and I don't mean learning arithmetic or history or chemistry. Real learning is life learning, faith learning. It's learning from what we experience and acting on what we learn. Jesus was and is a teacher. We are his students. And all of life is the classroom in which Jesus sits down beside us and helps us through the problems, not "word problems" but "life problems." We learn from our mistakes and our successes. We learn what it means to be forgiven and to forgive, to be courageous in the face of fearful situations, to listen instead of talk, to be humble rather than filled with pride. We learn who we are and who God is in Christ. Jesus said, "The student is not greater than the teacher." We can all learn, and in our learning, there is purpose.

To live, to love, and to learn. In these lie our purpose. You might be inclined to think that these purposes are not "spiritual" enough. I didn't say anything about the five life purposes outlined by Rick Warren in his now classic book "The Purpose Driven Life." But, at the core of all that is purposeful in life are these three purposes: to live, to love, and to learn. They are spiritual to the core, and as we see in life and all its circumstances a chance to live, to love, and to learn, purpose is there, not under the surface, but in plain view.

~ Rendell

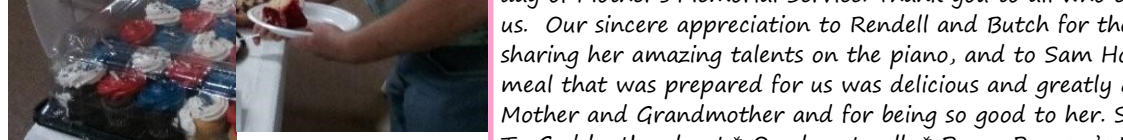
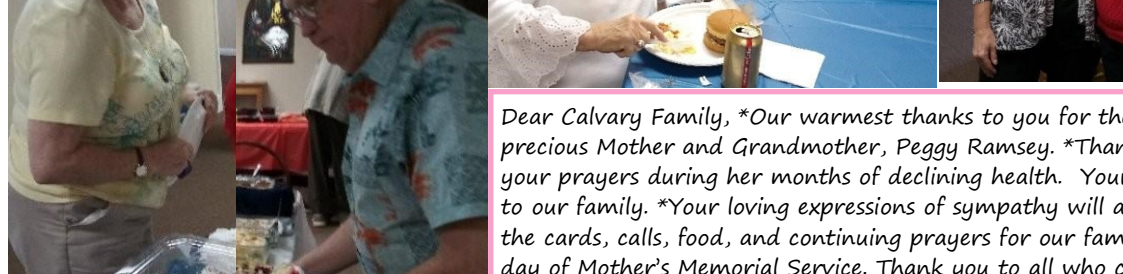
Watch our worship services on-line.
Services are posted on our website on Sunday afternoons.
www.calvarync.org/messages



Enjoy some high-lights from the July 4th picnic!!



For our church family still wanting the Covid Vaccine: You can go online to <https://covid19.ncdhhs.gov/vaccines/find-your-spot-take-your-shot> or call Buncombe County Health Services at 828-419-0095. If you need a ride to get to your appointment, call the church office and we will try to connect you with transportation.



Dear Calvary Family, *Our warmest thanks to you for the kindness and love that you showed to our precious Mother and Grandmother, Peggy Ramsey. *Thank you for your concern, cards, calls, and your prayers during her months of declining health. Your thoughtfulness meant so much to her and to our family. *Your loving expressions of sympathy will always be remembered. We thank you for the cards, calls, food, and continuing prayers for our family. God blessed us in so many ways on the day of Mother's Memorial Service. Thank you to all who came to celebrate her life and to support us. Our sincere appreciation to Rendell and Butch for their beautiful messages, to Dianna Wyatt for sharing her amazing talents on the piano, and to Sam Hocking for sharing his beautiful voice. The meal that was prepared for us was delicious and greatly appreciated. * We thank you for loving our Mother and Grandmother and for being so good to her. She truly loved her Calvary Family! To God be the glory! * Our love to all, * Peggy Ramsey's Family

Thank you
Annette Perkins,
Rick Green and
Kelly Hipps for
sharing your pictures

In Deepest Sympathy.....

Peggy Ramsey passed away July 13th. Please keep the Ramsey, Elkin and Nix families in your prayers as they move forward without their beloved Mother and Grandmother.

Travis & Summer Poteat Messer's Grandmother passed away. Please lift the Messer and Poteat families before God for comfort and peace.



American Red Cross Blood Drive at Calvary



On Saturday, August 7, starting at 10:00 am, we will host the American Red Cross Blood Drive in our front parking area. This is our 9th annual event! Please help us give the gift of life. Appointments can be made by contacting McKenzie Elkin by calling her at 828-712-1756 or emailing her at mckenzie.miller89@gmail.com.

Parking at Calvary

Calvary leases parking space through McLaurin Parking Services to our community. But, of course, our parking lots are available and free to all Calvary members and guests during church services and related activities. If you are parking on the Calvary campus any time other than on Sunday morning, you will need a parking tag so that you will not be charged for parking. Please come by or call the church office to acquire your parking tag to be displayed from your rear-view mirror. Other than on Sunday mornings, any vehicle not displaying the Calvary tag is subject to a parking ticket through McLaurin Parking. If you receive a parking ticket for parking at Calvary at any time, please submit that ticket to the church office. We will ensure that McLaurin voids the ticket.

COVID-19 Policy Update Due to the current rise in COVID-19 cases, our current policy is as follows. We require masks in Bible Study and strongly suggest using a mask during worship. It is up to you to practice safe social distancing. Workers with children/youth are required to wear masks when working with anyone under age 18. We strongly encourage those who are not vaccinated to wear a mask at all times.



CHURCH DIRECTORY

The latest version of the church directory is available now. They are available at the church, or if you need one mailed, please contact Dianna at the church office. There is a sheet with corrections and additions in the Sanctuary at the organ entrance. Please let the office know if someone was not included that should be, or incorrect information was on file.



To all our Christmas shoebox supporters. Now is the time to shop for shoebox items. Stores are getting in their school supplies and clearing out summer items like sun glasses. Bargains like 24 pencils for \$1. Scissors, crayons, wash cloths, soap, small toys, would be good items to look for; but remember no candy, toothpaste, war toys or any type of liquids are permitted.

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 email the office at office@calvarync.org. The phone tree features weekly messages from our ministers, important church news, and prayer requests for our church family.

We've had several prayer requests where the name of the requestor isn't given. We try to keep our prayer list current so if you see a name on the list you have submitted in the past, please let us know of updates, changes and answers so we can continue praying for those in need and praise for those answered prayers.

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. Just click on "Sunday Messages" from the media menu.

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 Stillwell at 828-768-8313 or butchstillwell64@gmail.com

As you make plans for back to school include plans for back to Bible Study

ADULTS

Young and Median Adults Class
Room H-4 (off The Hub)

Ladies Journey Class
Room LC-3 (off the Learning Center)

Cornerstone Class
Room LC-1 (off the Learning Center)

Welborn Class
Room LC-2 (off the Learning Center)

Farlow Class
Room LC-4 (off the Learning Center)

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Preschool "Kid Adventures" - Birth through Kindergarten
Room H-3 (off The Hub)

"Kid Adventures" - 1st through 5th grade
Taught by Kelly Hipps and Peggy Brown
Room H-2 (off The Hub)

Youth - 6th through 12th grade
Taught by Jim Burnett, Rendell & Kelly Hipps

CONTACT US

info@calvarync.org
Office: 828-253-7301

Rendell Hipps

Senior Pastor
pastor@calvarync.org
828-228-8639 (m)

Jim Burnett

Minister of Music
music@calvarync.org
828-337-5592 (m)

Dianna Wyatt

Office Manager
office@calvarync.org
828-253-7301 (o)

Jared Gardner

Worship and Technology Intern
technology@calvarync.org

Kelly Hipps

Children's Ministry Coordinator

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