

CrossPoints

Monthly Newsletter

April 2023



From the Pastor...

When I was growing up, we were not a “picture taking” family and it was before everyone had smart phones with build-in cameras. But, I do have in my possession a few pictures that were taken of me when I was a child. One of my favorites is a picture that captures the joy and bliss of a childhood Easter Sunday. I look to be about 6 years old. I assume mom took it.

I’m in the yard on a sunny Easter Sunday hiding Easter eggs, with evidence of Spring bursting all around. In the picture, my expression boasts of my self-proclaimed genius in hiding an egg in a place that it would never, ever be found... or so I thought. “The gutter down spout! No one will ever look there!” I tucked the egg into the open hole at the end of the gutter and pushed a few leaves and twigs and small rocks in front. With hand clasped over mouth, twinkle in the eye, and even a bit of a sneaky look, I “posed” for the picture. Someone did find the egg... and it didn’t take long at all for that to happen.

Famous theologians (Luther, Barth) have said that we Christians worship “a Hidden God.” They are right. God in all of God’s glory is not on full display. In fact, very little of God is “out in the open” for all eyes to see. God is not visible to us, not really. Yes, we see evidence of God’s handiwork all around, but the Glory of the fullness of God Almighty is, indeed, hidden from our eyes -- and from our experience. Even the prophet Moses, when he asked to see just a glimpse of God’s glory, could only do so after God “passed by,” allowing the prophet only a momentary glance of God from the back. (Exodus 33:23)

The Easter egg that I hid so proudly in that gutter downspout was quickly discovered and my genius in hiding it was quickly dispelled. But, the Hidden God, who remains to this very day hidden in so many ways, once ingeniously hid himself in Flesh. Ingeniously hidden – so much so that few were able to detect who He really was. So much so that they killed God in Christ; they hung Him on a cross, not knowing that He was Lord of the Universe. So much so that they wrapped Him in a shroud and hid Him in a tomb, dead. They pushed not leaves and twigs and small rocks in front of that open sepulcher, but rather a large stone. It was dark inside – the body of Jesus hidden from light and wind and breath and life.

But it didn’t stay hidden long. Stone rolled away. Light radiating from inside tomb. Grave clothes unwrapped, neatly folded. Resurrection morning. Dead come to life. Glory beyond Glory on display. “The Hidden God” who hid Himself in flesh stepped out of the tomb into the world He once formed, an echo of what had taken place 33 year prior, when He once entered that same world through the womb that had formed Him, when angels sang “Glory in the Highest.” And there, an angel sat on that Tomb-Rock ringing-forth the greatest words ever spoken other than “Let there be...”, which were “He is not here, He has risen!”

We Christians do worship “a Hidden God.” But we don’t do so blindly. We don’t do so in darkness. We don’t do so without reason. Why? Because we have seen a glimpse of “the Hidden God” from the back side. We have “beheld His glory” at the empty tomb. We have heard the glorious proclamation “He is not here, He has risen!” It’s Easter, and we have seen just enough of “the Hidden God” to know that that which we have not yet seen is worth the wait. Then, one day, when Easter morning becomes our own Resurrection experience, wait and the wonder will turn to sight. God’s full glory will be on display before our very eyes. And we will join angels singing with full voice: “To Him who sits on the Throne and unto the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and power forever and ever! Amen!” (Revelation 5:24) Can you picture it? Me neither. And isn’t that Good News in and of itself.

— Pastor Rendell

Easter Breakfast / Service April 9, 2023



Upcoming Dates

April 6, 2023 — Men's Prayer Breakfast
April 6, 2023 — Maundy Thursday Service
April 7, 2023 — Good Friday Prayer Walk
April 9, 2023 — Easter Breakfast/Service
April 10, 2023 — Leadership Meeting
April 18, 2023 — Deacons Meeting
April 25, 2023 — Tuesday Bible Study begins

The Road to Easter

A four-week message series
March 19 - April 9

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday evening, April 6, we will hold a brief service that commemorates Jesus' last supper with His disciples before His crucifixion. During that meal, He gave them this command: Love one another. The word "maundy" comes from the Latin word for "command." As we anticipate Good Friday, the day of Jesus' crucifixion, we will come together on Thursday evening for a brief service in the Learning Center at 6:00pm. Let us gather, as did His disciples that evening, to be reminded of His sacrifice and to reflect on His command of love for one another.



Good Friday Prayer Walk

On Friday, April 7, we will participate in a Good Friday Prayer Walk down Haywood Road with other area Christian churches, led by Trinity Methodist. The walk will take about 45 minutes and will include stopping for reading of scriptures, prayers, and reflection. We will use this time to pray for our community and for the gospel to spread along Haywood Road even as we reflect on Jesus' journey along the Via Dolorosa, the "Sorrowful Way." We will meet at Calvary at 11:55am and begin the prayer walk at Calvary at noon.



Men's Monthly Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited! Meet with us on **Thursday, Apr 6** @ 7:30a @ Chick-Fil-A Smokey Park Hwy.



Volunteers Needed

Would you be willing to help run our sound booth on Sundays before and during worship or Wednesday nights for rehearsals? No experience? That's ok, we can teach you. If interested in serving your church family in this important way, contact Jim Burnett.

Thank You!

Thank you to those who attended our surprise anniversary reception. We are grateful for your warm wishes and loving thoughts. Your friendship made our day a memorable one.

Much Love,
Margaret & Bruce Morgan

Easter Lilies

With your help, this Easter Sunday, April 9, we will decorate our sanctuary with the beauty of Easter Lilies. You can purchase one or more Easter Lilies either in honor or in memory of someone. Please complete the form available at church and include a donation of \$20 per lily, writing "Easter Lilies" in the memo if using a check. Or, call the church office if you are not able to attend church and would like to participate. All information is due by Sunday, March 26.



Easter Breakfast

On Easter Sunday, April 9, we will have a church-wide breakfast beginning at 9:00 and ending at 10:15 in the Learning Center (downstairs). Sign-up to bring a breakfast item in your Bible Study class or by contacting Linda Farlow.

Biscuits, gravy, and sausage will be provided, along with coffee. Sign-up to bring something sweet, something savory, or a beverage such as milk or OJ.



Welcome Redeemer Anglican

Beginning Sunday, April 2, Redeemer Anglican Church will be meeting on the Calvary Campus for their Sunday morning worship service at 10:45. They have leased the Candler Center and the 2nd floor of the Education Building for the next seven years. As you see folks on campus from Redeemer, be sure to extend a warm welcome. It is a joy to be able to share our facilities with other congregations who are engaged in Kingdom work.



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Share Calvary

Be sure to "share" our Church's weekly worship services with your friends on Facebook. This is a great way to reach out to friends and family near and far.



Jonah

Surprised by Grace

Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Beginning Tuesday evenings this Spring, on April 25, our pastor will be leading a study of the thrilling and sometimes confusing book of Jonah. The study will be held in the Learning Center (downstairs). It will begin on Tuesday, April 25, and run for six weeks through Tuesday, May 30. Bring your own take-out supper and share fellowship around the table at 5:30pm. Study will be from 6:00-7:00pm. No registration required.

Kids At Calvary

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 10:15am. 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



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

2023 April

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Deacon for April: Dan Bradshaw 828-275-1677 Ushers for April: Dan Bradshaw Anita Smith 						1
Palm Sunday  9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 2	3	4	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal 5	Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30am Chick-Fil-A Smokey Park Hwy Maundy Thursday Service 6:00pm LC 6	Good Friday Prayer Walk 11:55am - 12:45pm CBC Parking Lot 7	8
Easter  9:00-10:15 Easter Breakfast 10:30 Worship 9	Leadership Team 1 pm LC 10	11	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal 12	13	14	15
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 16	17	Deacon Meeting 2pm LC 18	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal 19	20	21	22
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 23	CrossPoints Deadline 24	Tuesday Evening Bible Study 5:30-7pm LC 25	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal 26	27	28	29
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 30						

Calvary Prayer List

Alverta Bolick Home
Deacons & Leadership Team
Evelyn Boone
Betty Carter
Mary Ruth Duyck
Cami Green
Janie Green's Family
Sam Hocking
Patsy Hoglen
Fran Horton
Sarah McGinnis
Lucas Messer
Edith Middleton
Mona Moore

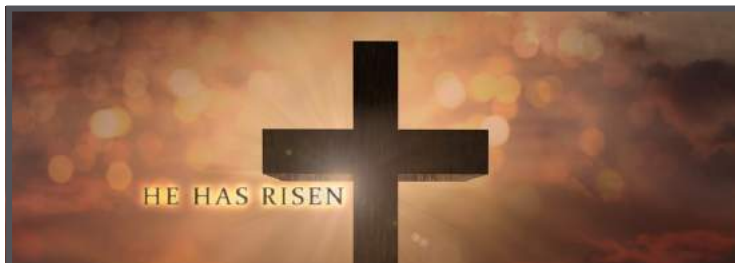
Andrew Mustafa
Peggy Nichols
Debbie Nix
Harry Ponder
Kathy Rhodes
Jean Rice
Pam & Norman Rice
Barbara Roberts
Geana Rollins
Gary Smallan
Terry Smith
Margo Snedden
Pat Stillwell
Fred & Donna Tennant
Don & Kayla Welborn

Wyatt Family
Other Concerns
Canterbury Classical School
Haylee Anderson
Pat & Barbara Bailey
Rick & Debbie Durham
Sandy Debruhl
Maria Fire
Elijah Frisby
Colson Gropp
Keith & Betty Sue Haywood
Gayle Jenkins
Linda Keeling
Jared McCanless
Janet Mitchell

Joe Morrison
Mustafa Family
Myra & Alexis
Takayla Pafford
Jessica
William Richardson
Joella Rigsby
Bill Rice
Dan Robinson
Donald & Kevin Robinson
Phillip Taylor
Karen Warren
Ukraine

Sunday Morning Prayer Team in the Prayer Room in the Learning Center (Praying During Worship)

Apr 02 Bruce Farlow
Apr 09 Glen Jervis
Apr 16 Gary Smallan
Apr 23 Margaret Morgan
Apr 30 Butch Stillwell



Prayer Time on Sunday Morning before Worship

Please join us for prayer time each Sunday morning in the Narthex in the rear of the sanctuary at 10:20. Masks optional.

April Birthdays

04 Madison Elkin
05 Jennie Dalton
11 Desiree Gamble
13 Barbara Burnett
16 Gail Hallman
16 Brenda Reese
18 Lennie Thornton
19 Katie Nix
21 Harry Ponder
29 Gary Smallan



April Anniversaries

15 Lin & Ginny Berrier
16 Rick & Janie Green

Hello, spring