

CrossPoints

Monthly Newsletter

July 2023



From the Pastor...

I was recently talking with a pastor friend who told me that he had been contemplating moving... not across town, not to another county, not to another state, but to another country. And moving not because he sensed God's call to mission work or a ministry in another country. He said he was contemplating moving to another country because of his disillusionment with the status of things in America. He shared that after he had bemoaned within himself some of the problems in America and had listed some of the reasons he wanted to live elsewhere, something in him suddenly reoriented his thinking. He was immediately struck with all the reasons that, as he put it, "America is the best place to live in all the world."

On Tuesday, July 4, this nation will celebrate 247 years of independence. Freedom. And with freedom comes responsibility. To be sure, mistakes have been made and will continue to be made. Neither our history nor our present are perfect – far from it. And to be sure, there will be much ahead of us in this nation that will go terribly wrong, and there will be plenty of blame to go around. But as with anything in life, we need to keep our perspective.

First, we need to keep our perspective when we compare our freedoms, our blessings, our opportunities to those that exist in many other nations. We are indeed blessed to be free, and that is not something we should take for granted or overlook. Opportunities abound on every corner. And maybe we have too many blessings... and that makes us less grateful for what we do have than we ought to be.

Second, we need to keep our perspective when it comes to our expectations. We often expect more out of our government and leaders and decision-makers than we ought. They are human. They are as fallible as any of us. That doesn't mean we don't hold them accountable, and it certainly doesn't mean that we aren't responsible for how we respond to egregious failures on the part of our leaders and those vying for our loyalty. But, they often are unable to do the things we expect them to do because they aren't guided by the Lord. And even if they are guided by the Lord, they may have a different perspective on things than we do. We need to keep our perspective and manage our expectations.

Third, we need to keep our perspective on what the world offers when compared to what the Kingdom of God offers. This world is not the Kingdom, and Jesus' Kingdom is not of this world. Yes, we, the church, strive to bring the light of Christ into the world as his ambassadors. But it is not up to us to bring the Kingdom. Only God can do that, and only at the end of time.

So, I don't want to move. I don't want to leave this country, my home. And it's not because it is perfect, and it is not because all things are the way I want them to be, or the way they ought to be, or the way they might be if this or that were different or better. No, I don't want to leave because I don't know where else I would go that would offer all that I have at my fingertips in this great land. And another thing: I don't want to go because I've been called to a mission field, planted in one. And you have too. And it's in your backyard. And it's a beautiful backyard, isn't it?

So, go into your backyard and celebrate your independence. Grill a hotdog. Carve up a watermelon. Say a prayer of thanksgiving. Gather with friends and family. And know that even in doing all of that, you've got a lot to celebrate. And don't forget who you are...

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light." 1 Peter 2:9

— Rendell

Church Cookout July 2, 2023

Upcoming Dates

July 2, 2023 — Church Cookout

July 6, 2023 — Men's Prayer Breakfast

July 11, 2023 — Women's Book Study Begins

July 16, 2023 — Dr. Robert Canoy, Guest Speaker

Men's Monthly Prayer Breakfast

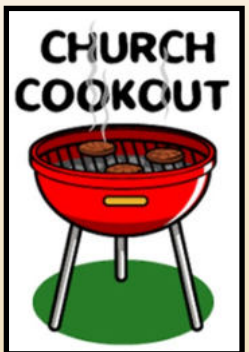
All men are invited! Meet with us on **Thursday, Jul 6** @ 7:30a @ Chick-fil-A Smokey Park Hwy.



Independence Day Celebration Cookout

On **Sunday, July 2nd**, we will have a church cookout following worship. You are encouraged to bring a side dish or dessert to share. The church will provide hamburgers and hotdogs. The meal will be shared in **The Learning Center**.

Mark this on your calendar!



God Is Able

Priscilla Shirer

Women's Summer Book Study

Nothing is impossible with God. Not even *that* thing. Not a denial of life's adversities, anxieties, and troubles or circumstances, but a Biblical reminder that God is always up to great things, even when His great things are greater than instant remedies and visible change. He is a God who cares...and a God who CAN. Believe it. Experience it. God Is Able.

This summer, Amanda Smith-Dunn will be leading a women's summer book study on Tuesday evenings in The Hub, with refreshments served at 5:30pm, and the study from 6-7pm. The study starts **Tuesday, July 11**, and will run for seven weeks, ending **Tuesday, Aug 22**. Books will be provided by the church. The book is called *God Is Able* by Priscilla Shirer. There will be a sign-up sheet on the Connection table to get a headcount and let us know how many books to provide.

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



Embrace Grace Packing Party

Calvary hosted a "Packing Party" to make Love Boxes for the Embrace Grace ministry after worship on Sunday, June 25. Continue to pray for God's blessing upon this ministry to young soon-to-be moms in our community and for Kim and Katha as they lead it.



Thank You!

I want to thank all my Calvary family for holding Carter Anderson, my great grandson, in their prayers. He seems to be doing great with no ill affects from whatever caused his high fever awhile back. He is all boy and nothing seems to get him down. I also want to thank you for keeping Haylee Anderson, my granddaughter, in your prayers as she seems to be doing well as well. It means a lot to me for my Calvary family to pray with me, as I know prayer can do all things in the Lord's name.

- Roberta Petree



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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.



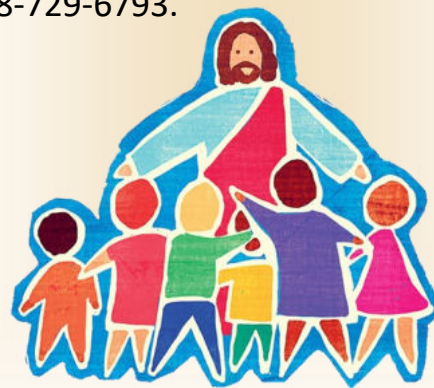
Congratulations!

Congratulations to Neva Hancock's granddaughter, Diana, upon her graduation from medical school in New York with a degree in Neurology.



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

July 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Deacon for July: Katha Tasios 828-279-3933 Ushers for July: Kim Poteat Katha Tasios						1
Church Cookout 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 6	7	8
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 9	Leadership Team 1 pm LC 10	Women's Summer Book Study 5:30-7pm LC 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 Women's Summer Book Study 5:30-7pm 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	Women's Summer Book 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	31					

Calvary Prayer List

Alverta Bolick Home
 Deacons & Leadership Team
 Evelyn Boone
 Betty Carter
 Mary Ruth Duyck
 Cami Green
 Floyd & Donna Hilemon
 Hipps Family
 Sam Hocking
 Les Little
 Sarah McGinnis
 Edith Middleton
 Mustafa Family
 Peggy Nichols

Debbie Nix
 Harry Ponder
 Jean Rice
 Norman Rice
 Barbara Roberts
 Geana Rollins
 Terry Smith
 Pat Stillwell
 Don & Kayla Welborn
 Wyatt Family

Other Concerns

Canterbury Classical School
 Haylee Anderson
 Pat & Barbara Bailey
 Kim Brantley

Alan Candler
 Joan Cook
 Maria Fire
 Elijah Frisby
 Gaye Garner
 Keith & Betty Sue Haywood
 Gayle Jenkins
 Pat Millard
 Janet Mitchell
 David Ray
 William Richardson
 Joella Rigsby
 Bill Rice
 Sean Robinson
 Donald & Kevin Robinson

Lowell Schultz
 Phillip Taylor
 Suzanne Yount
 Ukraine

Our Military

David Brown
 Graham Tasios

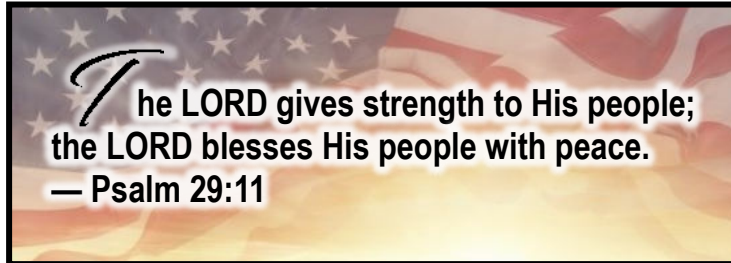
Our Front Line

Asheville Fire & Rescue
 Asheville & Buncombe Co. Law Enfr.
 EMT's and Ambulance Drivers
 Hospital & Health Care Workers

Help us keep our list current by letting us know the status or changes. We love that Calvary is a Prayer Warrior for our church family, community and our world.

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

Jul 02 Bruce Farlow
 Jul 09 Glenn Jervis
 Jul 16 Gary Smallan
 Jul 23 Margaret Morgan
 Jul 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.

July Birthdays

07 Betty Carter
 12 Bobbie McMahan
 13 Amber Gay
 16 Sarah McGinnis
 19 Pam Rice
 22 Casey McMahan
 23 Diandra Farlow
 23 Maggie Nix
 24 Janet Nichols
 25 Janie Green
 28 Les Little



July Anniversaries

12 Jim & Barbara Burnett
 27 Floyd & Donna Hilemon
 31 Fred & Margo Snedden

Happy Independence Day!