



From the Pastor...

No Labels, Except One

Reformation Day is October 31, every year. It commemorates the day Martin Luther is said to have posted his Ninety-five Theses on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany (October 31, 1517), later identified by Protestants as the beginning of the Reformation.

Luther's initial objective was to reform the Catholic Church, not split from it. Luther's complaints against his Church centered on a number of abuses -- the sale of indulgences being at the top of the list. For a sum of money, the church would offer special prayers for the dead, asking God to pardon the dead to reduce their term of suffering in purgatory. Luther challenged the church's sale of such indulgences in order to pay for the church's grandiose cathedrals. He later began to see other abuses of the church and challenged the church's practice and theology based on his reading of the Holy Scriptures.

Luther's passionate work, along with others in the Reformation era, led to what has been called the Five Solas: sola scriptura (Scripture alone), solus Christus (Christ alone), sola fide (faith alone), sola gratia (grace alone), and soli Deo gloria (glory to God alone). These foundational principles were asserted to directly challenge one or more aspects of the teachings and practices of the Church. For example, "sola scriptura" or "Scripture alone" challenged the idea that the pope was infallible, that the pope could not err in his doctrine, policy, or guidance. Luther's point was that the Holy Scripture should be followed, not the Pope, because while the Pope would err, the Scripture would not. The words of Holy Scripture, said Luther, are the basis for our faith, not the words of the Pope. Luther, and others, advocated that the Holy Scriptures are the rule or guide for ALL matters of faith and practice.

Aside from folks like Luther, there were other reformers, called "radical Reformers" who didn't seek to reform the Catholic Church; they felt the only possible remedy for the errors of the church was total separation. A group called "Anabaptists" emerged, comprised of those who found no Biblical basis for the Church's practice of the baptism of infants. They re-baptized themselves as adults, based on their own personal confession of their faith in Jesus Christ -- what we call "believer's baptism." Baptists likely have some historical ties to this group, along with churches led by John Smyth and Thomas Helwys, two Puritan separatists who believed in the separation of church and state and that the church should be self-governing. These and others like them paved the way for Baptist denominations to emerge.

Yes, Baptist denominationS. With an S. There were the General Baptists and the Particular Baptists, who had very different understandings of the sovereignty of God and human free-will, and who disagreed on whether Jesus' death was effective for all (humanity in general) or just some (the chosen in particular).

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Needless to say, the Reformation ultimately led to Denominationalism. Today, there are an estimated 47,000 Christian denominations. And for much of the past 400+ years, people chose which church they would attend or join based on the denomination of the church, particularly the major ones such as Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopalian, Anglican, etc. But in the year 2023, no more is that the norm. And in reality, the identity markers of most of the denominations are so blurred, denominational identity has become less than helpful, and sometimes, unhelpful.

I am a Protestant. I am a Baptist. Or at least I have been. I have journeyed with Christ from my early childhood in the era in which the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) split off the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) over issues such as the role of women in ministry, and more broadly, the way we go about reading, understanding, interpreting and applying the Bible. But over the last few years, things have continued to change, both in the CBF and the SBC. The SBC has made news as they have recently ousted churches who have chosen to call women as ministers, and also, has been embroiled in controversies around the nondisclosure of sexual misconduct allegations. The CBF has continued to move toward a “progressive” position on several pressing social issues and supports ministry partners for whom inclusivity of thinking, not Biblical authority, seems foremost (my assessment). For these and other reasons, it is hard to find a denominational home for many who have previously called themselves Baptist. For these and other reasons, almost two years ago, Calvary created our own Missions Giving Plan which gives us the flexibility and responsibility to choose missions and ministry partners who we feel represent our core values and Guiding Ministry Principles.

I suppose I will always be a Baptist of some type at heart, I’m just not sure any longer what type. But, what is much more important than the label I carry (Baptist or otherwise) is what I communicate about my faith in the Jesus of the Bible to others. And to the degree that any label other than “Follower of Jesus” turns someone away from the Gospel, I don’t want a label. I want what Luther wanted... to be faithful to the Scriptures, guided by the Holy Spirit, with the Jesus of the New Testament as my lens for interpreting and applying all the Bible. And whatever that means in terms of my denominational identity doesn’t matter much to me any longer. I’m just trying to follow Jesus and friend the world. And I’m glad I’m partnered with this group of people called Calvary who are just trying to do the same thing.

— Rendell

Upcoming Dates

- 10/05/23 — Men’s Prayer Breakfast**
- 10/07/23 — Campus Workday**
- 10/08/23 — Deacon Training**
- 10/14/23 — Community Shred Event**
- 10/28/23 — Shoebox Packing Party**
- 10/29/23 — Generations of Faith Family Reunion**

Generations of Faith Family Reunion

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023

JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE CALVARY’S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE



Bring your favorite foods to share with your church family as we take an inspiring journey through the life of Calvary and hear an aspiring vision for our future.

The pot-luck luncheon will be held in the Learning Center after our worship service.

Worship will include a special time of testimony and message from our pastor.

Campus Workday

We will be joining hands with our other campus partners for a Fall workday **Saturday, October 7, 8:30 am - noon**. Work inside or outside.

If working outside, please bring chain saws, hedge trimmers, rakes, etc.

Inside work will consist of sorting and cleaning.

A sign-up sheet is located on the Connection Table just inside the doors from the Hub into the Sanctuary.

Or, e-mail or call the church office to have your name added to the list. (office@calvarync.org, 828-253-7301).

2024 Deacons & Leadership Team Nominations

Please be in prayer for persons to serve on the Deacon Board and Leadership Team in 2024. We will begin accepting nominations in October and plan for the election process to take place on or before the first Sunday of December. Please ask the persons you prayerfully have chosen to be sure they are willing and able to serve before submitting their names for nomination.



Saturday, October 14

9:00 – 11:00 am

FREE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Drive-by & drop-off @ Calvary Church

What **CAN** be shredded: paper, file folders, hanging file folders, spiral bound notebooks, paper clips, elastic bands, staples and metal clips.

What **CANNOT** be shredded: batteries, CDs, computer disks, 3 ring binders, cardboard, any other non-recyclable items.

**These items may cause damage to the truck/shredder and Calvary would be liable for damages.*

**Please check your boxes/bags to be sure all items are safe for the shredder.*

New Member!

Please welcome our newest member:

Ellen Cheng



Deacon Training

Our pastor will hold a Deacon Training event after worship on **Sunday, October 8th**, in room H-4 off the Hub. The focus of the training will be equipping our deacons for the ministry of visitation and care. Lunch will be provided for those who register in advance for the training. Please contact Pastor Rendell (pastor@calvarync.org) to let him know you will be attending by Wednesday, October 4.



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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.



Operation Christmas Child

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, October 28th, 2023**. That is the day for our annual Operation Christmas Child Packing Party. Last year, we packed 300 boxes and we would like to repeat that number again this year. If you have not already purchased shoebox items, please do so now and bring them to the church. We need to have items ready to fill the boxes. The activity will be in the old choir room area. We have been gathering items all year round but we still need the following to make the boxes complete: crayons, pencil sharpeners, bars of soap, toothbrushes, combs, shirts or other small items of clothing, paper and especially: toys and stuffed animals. Children receiving the boxes range in age from 2 to 14.

A sign-up sheet is on the table in the Sanctuary. We will have two shifts: 10 AM to 12 PM and 1PM to 3PM. You can sign up for either or both times. If unable to attend but still want to participate, donations are appreciated.



Give
Online

www.calvarync.org/give

Men's Monthly Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited! Meet with us on **Thursday, Oct 5 @ 7:30a @ Chick-fil-A** Smokey Park Hwy.



531 Haywood Rd
Asheville, NC 28806

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

October ²⁰²³

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 1	2	3 Job Bible Study 6:00-7:00 - LC	4 6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	5 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30am Chick-Fil-A Smokey Park Hwy	6	7 Campus Workday 8:30 - Noon
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Deacon Training - Noon 8	9 Leadership Team 1 pm LC Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	10 Job Bible Study 6:00-7:00 - LC	11 6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	12	13	14 Community Shred Event 9 - Noon
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 15	16 Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	17 Deacon Meeting 2pm LC	18 6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	19	20	21
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 22	23 CrossPoints Deadline Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	24	25 6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	26	27	28 Shoebox Packing Party 10 - Noon Noon - 2
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Generations of Faith Family Reunion 29	30 Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	31	Deacon for October: Kim Poteat 828-275-1677 Ushers for October: Gary Smallan and James Gay			

Calvary Prayer List

Alverta Bolick Home
Deacons & Leadership Team
Embrace Grace
Evelyn Boone
Dan & Margaret Bradshaw
Betty Carter
Mary Ruth Duyck
Cami Green
Rick & Janie Green
Floyd & Donna Hilemon
Hipps Family
Neva Hancock
Sam Hocking
Les Little

McGinnis Family
Edith Middleton
Mustafa Family
Peggy Nichols
Debbie Nix
Harry Ponder
Jean Rice
Pam & Norman Rice
Barbara Roberts
Geana Rollins
Smith Family
Gary Smallan
Pat Stillwell
Don & Kayla Welborn
Wyatt Family

Other Concerns

Canterbury Classical School
Robert Atwater
Pat & Barbara Bailey
Kim Brantley
Alan Candler
Evelyn Carter
Joan Cook
Maria Fire
Elijah Frisby
Gaye Garner
Colson Gropp
Kimberly Hanna
Keith & Betty Sue Haywood
Gayle Jenkins

Travis Messer
Pat Millard
Janet Mitchell
Chris Pafford
Myra Phipps
Lynn Queen
David Ray
William Richardson
Joella Rigsby
Bill Rice
Sean Robinson
Donald & Kevin Robinson
Tristan Sprinkle
Phillip Taylor
Suzanne Yount

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

Oct 01 Glenn Jervis
Oct 05 Gary Smallan
Oct 15 Margaret Morgan
Oct 22 Butch Stillwell
Oct 29 Katha Tasios

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. — Psalm 1:3

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.

October Birthdays

03 Diane Jervis
03 Glenn Jervis
06 Norman Rice
20 John Hicks
20 Tom Mattox
25 Chuck Patterson
25 Lisa Sellers
26 Cheryl Armstrong

Hella October

October Anniversaries

13 Daniel & Amanda Dunn

Autumn Blessings