# CrossPoints September 2023 Monthly Newsletter



# From the Pastor...

I remember when I was in college at NC State, the large church I attended on the outskirts of downtown Raleigh had a security guard posted at the main entrance, dressed in clearlyidentifiable security guard attire. I remember being a bit puzzled by it, and feeling uncomfortable by his presence. After all, isn't this a church? Isn't this a safe place? Aren't we supposed to trust God with our safety? Why hire a security guard? Of course, that was 30

years ago. And since then, many churches have worked hard to address the growing need for creative and effective ways to deal with issues surrounding safety and security.

Here at Calvary, in the times in which we live, we need to be intentional about doing our best to ensure that we provide a safe environment for all who gather on Sundays for Bible Study and worship. While we do not want to ever be fearful, we do need to be wise. And, so, with the leadership of Rick Green and others on our Leadership Team, we have a newly established "Security Team." You will see these volunteers around our facility on Sunday mornings, each wearing a "Security Team" badge to help identify who they are. We have also installed a new electronic door locking system on the Baker Street door that will eliminate the keyed lock and instead will utilize a badge/fob system for entry. If you have previously used a key to enter the Baker Street door, please contact our church office to receive a badge or fob.

Even so, Calvary continues to focus our efforts and energies primarily on being a church with open doors, open hearts, and open arms. We never want our needed concern for safety and security to in any way be an obstacle to entry, a roadblock to someone whom God sends our way. We can offer an added layer of emphasis on security without sacrificing our openness, our hospitality, our welcoming spirit. We can all work even harder to ensure that anyone God sends our way for worship is warmly greeted in the parking lot or at the front door, is shown the way to a Bible Study class or into our sanctuary for worship, is encouraged to share a little about themselves on our Connection Card, is warmly embraced by our loving church family, is made to feel right-athome with us, is encouraged by their experience in the music and the message, and is invited to come back. We can all show the love of Christ that is so evident at Calvary as we welcome those guests God sends our way and ensure that we are all participating in helping them find a home at Calvary. It's all part of our mission of "Following Jesus. Friending the World."

— Rendell





#### **New Online Directory**

Instant Church Directory, Calvary's new online directory, went live in August. With our new directory, we can match names with faces, share pictures of our group events, and build memories for years to come. By now you should have received, or will soon receive, an email from the church office which includes a guide on how to access the directory and how to use all the wonderful features. Uploading your family or individual picture is an easy process and we can't wait to see your smiling faces start to brighten the pages. If you would prefer to have your picture taken, we will hold picture day on Sunday, September 10 immediately following our worship service.

If you are having any problems setting up your personal account and personal password, or issues with uploading your family or individual picture, please contact the church office or Katha Tasios (828-279-933, kathat@outlook.com), or Kim Poteat (828-275-1677, poteatmk@protonmail.com).



#### **Embrace Grace**

The new semester of Embrace Grace started in August and will run through November. We are continuing to form relationships with our local high schools and area churches so they can make referrals to our ministry here at Calvary, if they meet a young single woman who finds herself in an unexpected pregnancy. Please continue to pray for this ministry.

In the waiting, we are being prepared.

# **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 will be 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.

# New Key FOB System

**Baker Street Side Door** 

We have installed a new key FOB system on the Baker Street door. If you have a key to the Baker St. entrance, it will no longer work on that door. We have preprogrammed FOBs for key-holders that we know of. If you need one, please call the office to request a key FOB. Thank you!

#### 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



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

CONTACT US

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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.







### 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: office @calvarync.org

## **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.





531 Haywood Rd Asheville, NC 28806



Periodicals U.S. Postage PAID Asheville, NC Permit No. 672000

CrossPoints (672-000) Published monthly by Calvary Baptist Church, 531 Haywood Rd, Asheville, NC 28806. Periodical postage paid at Asheville, NC. Postmaster: Send address changes to: CrossPoints, 531 Haywood Rd, Asheville, NC 28806

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



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Deacon for September: Gary Smallan 828-275-0360 Ushers for September: Linda Farlow   Pat Stillwell					1	2
9:20 Prayer <b>3</b> 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	<b>4</b> Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	5	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	Men's Prayer <b>7</b> Breakfast 7:30am Chick-Fil-A Smokey Park Hwy	8	9
9:20 Prayer <b>10</b> 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	11 Leadership Team 1 pm LC Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	12	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	14	15	16
9:20 Prayer <b>17</b> 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	<b>18</b> Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	<b>19</b> Deacon Meeting 2pm LC	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	21	22	23
9:20 Prayer 24 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	CrossPoints Deadline 25 Embrace Grace 6:30-8:30pm The Hub	26	6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	28	29	30

<u>Calvary Prayer List</u>	Peggy Nichols	Kim Brantley	William Richardson
Alverta Bolick Home	Debbie Nix	Alan Candler	Joella Rigsby
Deacons & Leadership Team	Harry Ponder	Joan Cook	Bill Rice
Evelyn Boone	Jean Rice	Maria Fire	Sean Robinson
Betty Carter	Norman Rice	Elijah Frisby	Donald & Kevin Robinson
Mary Ruth Duyck	Barbara Roberts	Gaye Garner	Lowell Schultz
Cami Green	Geana Rollins	Colson Gropp	Tristan Sprinkle
Floyd & Donna Hilemon	Smith Family	Keith & Betty Sue Haywood	Phillip Taylor
Hipps Family	Pat Stillwell	Gayle Jenkins	Suzanne Yount
Neva Hancock	Don & Kayla Welborn	Pat Millard	Ukraine
Sam Hocking	Wyatt Family	Janet Mitchell	Our Military
Les Little	Other Concerns	Milly Owenby	David Brown
Sarah McGinnis	Canterbury Classical School	Chris Pafford	Graham Tasios
Edith Middleton	Carter & Haylee Anderson	Myra Phipps	
Mustafa Family	Pat & Barbara Bailey	Lynn Queen	

the Prayer Room in the Learning Center (Praying During Worship)

Sep 03 Margaret Morgan Butch Stillwell Sep 10 Sep 17 Katha Tasios Sep 24 Bruce Farlow

efore the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God. — Psalm 90:2

#### Morning before Worship

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

#### **September Birthdays**

- 01 Joyce Elliott
- 02 Daniel Nix
- 02 Debbie Nix
- 07 Kim Poteat
- 12 Jean Rice
- 13 Becky Boone
- 18 Arthur Tasios
- 19 Geana Rollins
- 25 Logan Messer
- 26 Evelyn Boone
- 29 Peggy Brown
- 30 Jean Reynolds
- 30 McKenzie Elkin



#### **September Anniversaries**

- 01 Matt & Callie Strickland
- 03 Bruce & Linda Farlow
- 05 Ian & Kim Moorrees
- 05 Gary & Debbie Smallan
- 12 Eric & Pam Elkin
- 16 Reggie & Lisa Sellers
- 17 Tim & Janet Nichols
- 19 Jack & Peggy Brown

