

# CrossPoints

Monthly Newsletter

May 2024



## From the Pastor...

I love the book of Ecclesiastes. That may sound strange, given that the book is potentially depressing! “Meaningless” says the teacher. “Everything is meaningless.” The teacher lays out how it is that in his life, he has searched for understanding of the meaning of life, and he has found that it all seems meaningless. Seeking wisdom is futile. Seeking pleasure is futile. Work and toil also are meaningless. “A chasing after the wind.” Even those who acquire wealth, possessions, and honor, so that they lack nothing, “God does not enable them to enjoy these things, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous ill.” (6:2) The righteous perish in their righteousness, and the wicked prolong their life in their wickedness. Whether you are swift, strong, wise, intelligent, skillful: “time and chance happen to them all. For no one can anticipate the time of disaster. Like fish taken in a cruel net, and like birds caught in a snare, so mortals are snared at a time of calamity, when it suddenly falls upon them.” (9:12)

Depressing, isn’t it? And that’s why I like this little strange book. It’s real life.

In this little book is a profound question, a life-long search of sorts, a search for the meaning of life itself. And lest we think the answer to the meaning of life is made entirely clear to us who have faith in Jesus and who trust God completely and who have faith that “can move mountains,” this little book says to us “Not so fast!” This little book lets the most faithful among us ask some hard questions about life... even the meaning of life itself, and come to the determination that the meaning of life is not quite so intuitively obvious as our religious inclinations might point us. Life is hard; life is messy; life is complex; life is mysterious. And there are, for all of us, no matter the measure of our faith and trust in God, those times when we, like the wise Teacher of old, sit down with our head in our hands and ponder the meaning of it all.

And that is part of the journey of faith in God. The abundant life that Jesus offers and promised does not completely annihilate our times of despair in life, our times of uncertainty in the unknown, our times of wrestling with the very essential nature of life itself. Rather, the abundant life that Jesus offers and promised allows us to journey through life, not with all our questions answered in totality, but with the surety that we have one who holds our hands through the mysterious maze, one step at a time, knowing that he has said to us “I will never leave you nor forsake you.”

So, just so you know, if you ever have that moment when you wonder deep down in the core of your being “What is the meaning of all of this after all?”, Ecclesiastes is a reminder to know that you are not alone *in* the question, and Jesus says that you are not alone *with* the question. And maybe *that* is the meaning of life anyway... “No, never alone; no, never alone.”

— Rendell

**MANNA Food Bank Missions Opp - May 23, 2024**

## Upcoming Dates

5/02/24 — Men's Prayer Breakfast  
5/08/24 — Ladies' Prayer Breakfast  
5/12/24 — Mother's Day  
5/14/24 — Deacon's Meeting  
5/15/24 — Leadership Team Meeting  
5/23/24 — MANNA Food Bank Missions Opportunity  
5/31/24 — Calvary Men's Hot Dog & Cornhole Night

## 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.



## Church Essentials

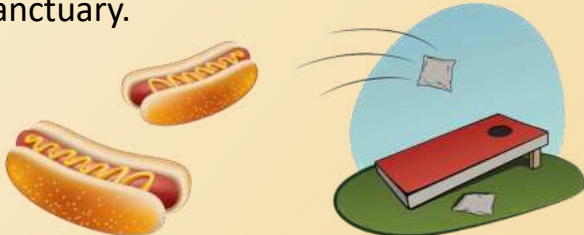
Lessons from Titus

## New Message Series

The months of April and May, our pastor will begin a new message series called "Church Essentials." In it, we will cut through the non-essentials and get down to what really matters when it comes to the stuff of church.

## Calvary Men's Hot Dog & Cornhole Night

On **Friday, May 31 at 6:00pm**, all men are invited to get together for hotdogs and cornhole here at Calvary at the picnic shelter. We will serve dogs and all the fixin's and fellowship around some fun yard games. Cost is \$7 per person for the meal. Advance sign-up is requested so we can prepare for the meal. The sign-up sheet is on the Connection Table in the Sanctuary.



## Thank You!

Dear Church Family:

Our worship experience together this last Sunday was very inspirational to me and my family!

I am touched beyond words for your gifts and words of affirmation. A special thank you to the choir for singing "It is Well with My Soul" and allowing all of us to sing the last verse with you. The food was great! The fellowship was great! May this circle never be broken!

Love,  
Jim & Barbara





## April Hands-On Missions Opportunity

Thank you to all who helped with our monthly Hands-On Missions event last month — those who sorted clothes, donated clothes, helped with setup/clean-up and clothing giveaway. The people who attended were very grateful for the clothing and it was a success! We are planning to do another clothing giveaway in the Fall.

Thank you!

Cindy Thornton



## The Ministry of Prayer

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 .



### CONTACT US

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## May Hands-On Missions Opportunity

We need the help of 10 volunteers for May's Hands-On Missions event. We will help at the MANNA food bank on Swannanoa River Road on **Thursday, May 23, 1:00 - 3:00 pm**. We will help in the warehouse, but sitting jobs are also available. Please sign-up to help out! The sign-up sheet is on the Connection Table. (Notice that the food bank is only open Monday through Friday, so Saturday volunteering is not an option.) Please meet at the Food Bank at 12:45pm. Thank you!



## Calvary Church Parking

For those who are able, please consider parking in the "Calvary Church" designated parking spots behind the church building. There are several spots that are marked with a "Calvary Church" sign near the rear Bell Tower entrance as well as to the side of the Candler Center along Baker Street. You may also find unmarked Calvary Church parking in the front Bell Tower lot, alongside the Education Building, and in the Baker Street lot.

## Ladies' Monthly Prayer Breakfast

All ladies are invited! Meet with us on **Wed, Apr 17 @ 7:30a @ Chick-fil-A Smokey Park Hwy.**



## Men's Monthly Prayer Breakfast

All men are invited! Meet with us on **Thurs, Apr 4 @ 7:30a @ Chick-fil-A Smokey Park Hwy.**



# Give Online

[www.calvarync.org/give](http://www.calvarync.org/give)

## LIVE Streaming of Calvary Worship

Each Sunday, our worship service is LIVE on Facebook @ 10:30. If you cannot attend in person, join us online!

[www.Calvarync.org](http://www.Calvarync.org)



Following Jesus. Friending the world.

531 Haywood Rd  
Asheville, NC 28806

FIND US AT  
[calvarync.org](http://calvarync.org)



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Watch our worship services on Facebook Live.  
Services are posted on our website on Sunday afternoons.  
[www.calvarync.org/messages](http://www.calvarync.org/messages)



# May 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>Deacon for May:</b> James Gay 828-215-4212  <b>Ushers for May:</b> James Gay and Gary Smallan			6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30am <b>Chick-Fil-A</b> Smokey Park Hwy		
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship			Ladies Prayer Breakfast 7:30am <b>Chick-Fil-A</b> Smokey Park Hwy			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>Mother's Day</b>  9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship		Deacon Meeting 4pm LC	Leadership Team 1 pm LC  6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal			Canterbury Commencement 1-6pm
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship			Canterbury last day of school  6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	MANNA Food Bank Missions Opportunity 1pm-3pm		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	 <b>Memorial Day</b>  CrossPoints Deadline		6:15-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal		 Calvary Men's Hot Dog & Cornhole Night 6-8pm	
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### Calvary Prayer List

Alverta Bolick Home  
Deacons & Leadership Team  
Robbie Anderson  
Dan & Margaret Bradshaw  
Betty Carter  
Mary Ruth Duyck  
Cami Green  
Rick & Janie Green  
Floyd & Donna Hilemon  
Hipps Family  
Neva Hancock  
Sam Hocking  
Lin Dawn Llewellyn  
McGinnis Family

Edith Middleton  
Mustafa Family  
Nichols Family  
Debbie Nix  
Jean Rice  
Pam Rice  
Barbara Roberts  
Geana Rollins  
Smith Family  
Smallan Family  
Pat Stillwell  
Don & Kayla Welborn  
Wyatt Family

### Other Concerns

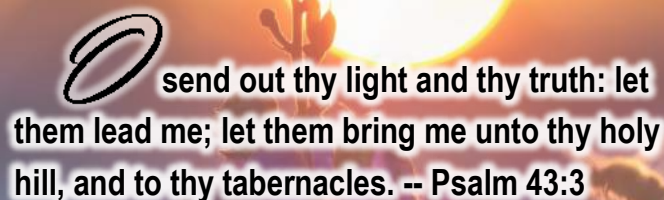
Canterbury Classical School

Robert Atwater  
Pat & Barbara Bailey  
Kim Brantley  
Margie Browning  
Evelyn Carter  
Joan Cook  
Libba Feichter  
Maria Fire  
Elijah Frisby  
Shirley Gay  
Nick Givens  
Kimberly Hanna  
Keith & Betty Sue Haywood  
Gayle Jenkins  
Pat Millard

Sue Morgan  
Chris Pafford  
Lynn Queen  
Brenda Reese  
William Richardson  
Joella Rigsby  
Bill Rice  
Sean Robinson  
Donald & Kevin Robinson  
Anna Shelley  
Robert Shelton  
Jerry Sprinkle  
Pam Sprinkle  
Phillip Taylor  
Tammy Tweed

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

May 05 Glenn Jervis  
May 12 Pat Stillwell  
May 19 Margaret Morgan  
May 26 Bruce Farlow



send out thy light and thy truth: let  
them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy  
hill, and to thy tabernacles. -- Psalm 43:3

### 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.

### May Birthdays

02 Mona Moore  
02 Kyleigh Shell  
05 Fred Snedden  
05 Jan Hicks  
13 Eric McKinney  
16 Margaret Mattox  
18 Dianna Wyatt  
21 John Buckner  
23 Judith Prather  
26 Lou Corbin  
27 Karla Gay  
28 Adam Nix



### May Anniversaries

10 Terry & Anita Smith  
11 Dan & Margaret Bradshaw  
27 Jason & Kelli Nix



Happy Mother's Day!