



From the Pastor...

During the Christmas season, Christians are reminded through songs and scriptures of many titles for Jesus – some given to him at his birth, others used to refer to him in the New Testament. Immanuel, meaning “God with us.” Messiah, meaning “God’s anointed.” He is called “the Prince of Peace” based on Isaiah 9:6. He is called “the Light of the World” in John 8:12. He is “the Lamb of God”, “the Alpha and the Omega”, “the Bread of Life.” The New Testament is full of descriptive names for the Lord, the Savior, the Son of God.

Several hundred years after the start of the Christian church, Christians who reflected on the meaning of Jesus the Christ and His nature came to refer to Jesus with yet another phrase, a description: “Very God of very God.” This phrase – this description of Jesus’ essence – was adopted by the Church at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD. It was adopted to refute the teachings of a presbyter (church elder) named Arius who claimed Jesus was the first being created by God. Arius claimed that Jesus was a created being, not eternal God. Arius taught that Jesus was created out of nothing by the Father and existed before the rest of creation, but he was not eternal in the same way the Father was. It caused quite a stir, and much debate. But the Church quickly deemed such teachings “heresy.” The rest of the Nicene Creed, as it was later called, spells it out with resounding clarity:

*I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.*

*I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true (very) God from true (very) God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through Him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.*

This creed affirms what the Gospel writer named John means when he writes: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.... And the Word became flesh.” Jesus was born of the Virgin Mary, but Jesus was not created in the womb as you and I are. Jesus was always, because Jesus is God... “very God of very God.”

So, when we come to Christmas, let’s always remember who Jesus is: God wrapped in flesh, then wrapped in swaddling clothes, then wrapped in a dusty Judean tunic, then wrapped in burial clothes, and now wrapped in the white arraignment of glory. And, when we come to Christmas, let’s always remember that when we worship Jesus, pray to Jesus, talk to Jesus, listen to Jesus, sit with Jesus... we are with the God who created it all, our human flesh included... you and me included. Jesus is “very God of very God.” And that is very Good!

— Rendell

Calvary Christmas Party - Saturday, Dec 13, 2025

Upcoming Dates

12/04/25 — Men's Prayer Breakfast

12/07/25 — Budget Vote

12/09/25 — Deacons' Meeting

12/10/25 — Ladies' Prayer Breakfast (new location: Cracker Barrel)

12/13/25 — Calvary Christmas Party

12/17/25 — Leadership Team Meeting

12/19-20/25 — ABCCM Christmas Shop Volunteering

12/21/25 — Christmas Caroling

12/24/25 — Christmas Eve Service 5pm

12/25/25 — Christmas Day

Budget Vote

On **Sunday, December 7**, the church will vote on the budget. Members may pick up a copy on the Connection Table. (At-home members will receive a copy of the budget by mail.)

Christmas Together

We will combine our adult Bible Study classes for Advent/Christmas, **November 30 through January 4**. We will meet in the Learning Center around the tables, 9:30 - 10:20 each of these six Sundays. No materials needed in advance; just bring a Bible and some holiday cheer!

Christmas Caroling

Sunday evening, **December 21, 4 – 6pm**. Come along for an evening of caroling to some of our At-Home members and neighbors in the West Asheville area. We will carpool together. Meet at 4:00pm in the Calvary parking lot behind the Candler Center.



End of Year Giving

The season of thankfulness and giving is upon us, and one way to express our thankfulness is to give to the ministries of Calvary. Any tithes, offerings, or financial gifts to Calvary that are received in the office before 12/31, will be counted toward the 2025 budget year. If you are planning to make a gift that you wish to be counted toward the 2025 budget, please be sure those gifts are in the church office or are given on-line prior to 12/31. Thank you!

ABCCM Angel Tree

Pick-up an "Angel" off the tree in The Hub. Purchase the item(s) for your angel for the ABCCM Christmas Store. Unwrapped gift items are due under the tree (or to the church office) by **Sunday, December 14**.

(Note that the Christmas Angel program does not provide clothing, shoes, or bedding, as these essentials are available year-round at the Crisis Ministries.)



Christmas Shoppe

ABCCM Christmas Shop December Hands-On Missions Opportunity

The Calvary family will be volunteering at the
ABCCM Christmas Shop
again this year.

Sign up on the Connection Table.
We need six volunteers for each time slot:

**Friday, Dec 19, 1-4pm or
Saturday, Dec 20, 10am - 1pm.**

IMPORTANT: The NEW location is
1845 Brevard Road, Arden

At-Home Christmas Bags

Our deacons have Christmas Gift Bags in
The Hub for you to fill with cards, small
gifts, candies, and treats for our **18**
recipients. Bags will
be in The Hub
through **Sunday,
December 14.**



Christmas Card Station

You will find collection
boxes in The Hub for your
Calvary Family Christmas
Cards. Use the first letter of the person's
last name. Cards for At-Home members
should be placed in their special
Christmas bags for delivery to their
homes.



Thank You!

Dear Calvary Family,
Kelly and I so very much appreciate all the ways you showered us with your
love and affirmation for "pastor appreciation." Thank you for the words,
cards, and gifts. Your love, goodness, and Christ-like hearts are a blessing to
us year-round, and we love you!

In Christ,
Rendell & Kelly



CONTACT US

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Kelly Hipps

Kids Ministry Coordinator

kids@calvarync.org

Calvary Christmas Party

Please save the date now for a church Christmas Party on **Saturday, December 13, 4:00pm** in the **Learning Center**. The cost for the delicious catered meal is \$15 per person, and we need you to sign up!



Sign up in your Bible Study class or on the Connection Table in the Sanctuary or by calling or emailing the church office (office@calvarync.org or 828-253-7301).

Be sure to wear your "ugly Christmas" clothes... sweater, socks, ties, hats, or whatever! Winners will receive a prize!



Christmas Eve Service

Our Christmas Eve Service will be **Wednesday** evening, **December 24, @ 5pm**



Monthly Prayer Breakfasts

Men's Prayer Breakfast:

Our Men's Prayer Breakfast for December will be **Thursday, Dec 4, @ 7:30am @ The Salty Goat Grill**, New Leicester Hwy.

Ladies' Prayer Breakfast:

Our Ladies' Prayer Breakfast for December will be **Wednesday, Dec 10 @ 8:30am @ Cracker Barrel** (right off Smokey Park Hwy) 5 Crowell Rd, Asheville.



Following Jesus. Friending the world.

531 Haywood Rd
Asheville, NC 28806

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

CrossPoints (672-000)

Published monthly by Calvary 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

2025 December

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon His shoulder:
and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor,
The mighty God, The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.”
-- Isaiah 9:6

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30am The Salty Goat New Leicester Hwy	5 Friday Crafters 11a-2p	6
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship 2026 Budget Vote	8	9 Deacon Meeting 4pm LC	6:30-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal Ladies Prayer Breakfast 8:30am Cracker Barrel (off Smokey Park Hwy) 6:30-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	11	12 Friday Crafters 11a-2p	13 Christmas Party 4pm LC
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Angel Tree Gifts Due At-Home Gifts Due	15 CrossPoints Deadline	16	17 LT Meeting 10am LC 6:30-8:30 Worship Team Rehearsal	18	19 Friday Crafters 11a-2p ABCCM Christmas Shop 1-4pm	20 ABCCM Christmas Shop 10a-1pm
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Christmas Caroling 4-6pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 5pm 		26	27
9:20 Prayer 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	29	30	31 No Rehearsal this week		Deacon for December: Linda Farlow 828-772-1393 Deacon Greeters for December: Linda Farlow & Amanda Dunn 	

Calvary Prayer List

Alverta Bolick Home
 Deacons & Leadership Team
 Karen Bartlett
 Margaret Bradshaw
 Betty Carter
 Ellen Cheng
 Jennie Dalton
 Amanda Dunn
 Mary Ruth Duyck
 Farlow Family
 Floyd & Donna Hilemon
 Neva Hancock
 Donna Hilemon
 Sam Hocking
 Diane Jervis
 Sarah McGinnis

Middleton Family
 Mona Moore
 Debbie Nix
 Poteat Family
 Jean Rice
 Barbara Roberts
 Geana Rollins
 Smallan Family
 Butch & Pat Stillwell
 Fred & Donna Tennant's
 daughter
 Deb Welborn
 Kayla Welborn
Other Concerns
 Canterbury Classical School
 Beverly Adams
 Mike Baker

Peggy Burke
 Margaret Brown
 Evelyn Carter
 Breanna Chambers
 Joan Cook
 Carolyn Drake
 Elijah Frisby
 Nick Givens
 Cami Green
 Andy Green
 Colson Gropp
 Kimberly Hanna
 Keith & Betty Sue Haywood
 Gayle Jenkins
 Kaye Lawrence
 Doug & Billie Mayo
 Pat Millard

Jamie Miller
 Sue Morgan
 Chris Pafford
 Lynn Queen
 William Richardson
 Bill Rice (Jean Rice's son)
 Sean Robinson
 Donald & Kevin Robinson
 Robert Shelton
 Ryan Shipman
 Bob Snedden
 Phillip Taylor
 Tammy Tweed

Our Military

Graham Tasios
 Dylan Biddix

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

Dec 07 Bruce Farlow
 Dec 14 Butch Stillwell
 Dec 21 Gary Smallan
 Dec 28 Glenn Jervis

*P*raise the Lord! You servants of the Lord, praise
 His name! May His name be praised, now and forever
 — Psalms 113:1-2

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.

Dec Birthdays

3 Claire Elkin
 3 Jason Nix
 7 Mathew McMahan
 7 Pat Hoglen
 10 Pam Elkin
 11 Sam Hocking
 19 Dan Nix
 23 John Jervis
 26 Frank Richardson
 30 Tim Nichols
 30 Nikki Farlow Shell

*Hello
 December*

**Dec Anniversaries**

4 James & Karla Gay
 19 Lennie & Cynthia Thornton

Merry Christmas!