

THE BRIDGE

Creating a Christ Centered Culture

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 1 CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH - MONROE, NC JANUARY 2024

Pastor's Point
Rev. Eddie D. Price
Eddie.Price@cbcmonroe.org

Healthy and Getting Healthier

If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I gave you an example that you also should do as I did to you. - John 13:14-15

DEEPLY GRATEFUL. These words summarize the joy in my heart for each of you and for the privilege to serve with you in kingdom work for our Lord. Your sacrificial serving and giving radiates the love of Christ. The greatest leaders are servant leaders and the greatest of all time (G.O.A.T. in today's slang) is Jesus Christ. Not only did He exemplify servant leadership by washing the disciples' feet but also by being "the good shepherd who laid down His life for the sheep" - John 10:14-15.

Each Wednesday Night during the months of January and February, we will be studying Servant Leadership Development: Leading well, be a leader who.....

The schedule will be as follows:

Jan 3: Be a Leader who is Led
10: Be a Leader who Loves
17: Be a Leader who Learns
24: Be a Leader who Listens
31: Be a Leader who
Lightens the Load

Feb 7: Be a Leader who Leads
14: Valentines Day
21: Be a Leader who
Leaves a Legacy
28: Series Review

Thank you for making the body of Christ healthy. In the new year, let's continue to be intentional about growing even healthier.

~ Pastor Eddie

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Katie Brantley (10-08-23)

Statement

Chance

3913 Lancaster Hwy.

Monroe, NC 28112

Katie: 704-635-3100

Deacon: Bill Hooks

Frank & Holly Casstevens (10/29/23)

Letter

Trevor

2805 Telefair Lane

Monroe, NC 28110

704-283-7979

Frank: 704-219-1756

Holly: 704-219-1759

Deacon: Chuck Teague

CJ & Lynn Stikeleather (11/12/23)

Letter

10342 New Town Road

Waxhaw, NC 28173

CJ: 704-301-8647

Lynn: 704-301-8648

Deacon: Gary Pressley

ABC 123 PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN



www.cbcmmonroe.org/preschool



JUST LIKE THAT! Our first semester is coming to an end and we are looking forward to an exciting 2024! It's pretty amazing to look back and realize how far we have come since our doors first opened. What a great privilege it is to be part of this vital ministry outreach of Calvary Baptist Church. We pledge our hearts and minds to continue to offer our very best in the name of Christ.

Here are some highlights of this year so far:

17 Faithful and dedicated staff members continue to plant the seeds of God's love daily.

- Enrollment continues at capacity - 96 children.
- A new Kindergarten class opened this Fall with very busy learners.
- Several new shelving units were purchased for added organization.
- All outside windows were tinted for extra added security.
- A wide variety of medical supplies were donated for emergency purposes.
- Mission outreach is alive and well through several donations to Operation Christmas Child, The Blessing Cart, and House of Pearls.

Mark Your Calendars! More details to come.

- January 18th @ 10am: Preschool Parent Informational Meeting @ 10am
- January 22nd @ 9:15am for TK/Kindergarten Information Meeting for interested families
- February 5th- 2024-2025 Fall Registration opens for Current Families
- February 12th- 2024-2025 Fall Registration opens for New Families



If you feel led to support this ministry, here are some ways to help:



Preschool
Wishlist:



Donate to Our
Scholarship Fund:





Calvary's Nursery



We would like to take a moment to thank all of our 40+ volunteers that keep our nurseries running! We also want to extend a warm welcome to our newest volunteers that we were recently able to add to our rotations, allowing for 5-6 volunteers every Sunday and 3 every Wednesday!

Please look for a meeting announcement in the Spring of 2024 to go over any questions you have about the nursery and how it operates.

If you need anything in the meantime please reach out to Haley Brooks or me.

Thank you for your support for this ministry!

- Lindsey Howe-





Loved, Trained, Sent

Happy New Year! We have had an exciting time this fall and winter so far! We had the opportunity to fellowship with the community at the Fall Festival, celebrate with 5th Wednesday fun, and share in worship at Christmas: The Love of God. As we start the new year, let us bring our worship with that same excitement. We continue to have nursery and Team Kid each Wednesday, 6:30-7:45 and Sunday School and Kid's Worship each Sunday morning! I encourage you to make it a priority to come, bring your children as we learn and fellowship together.

As we begin 2024, I encourage you to choose your "word." This is something that I have done for many years, and it has been something that has helped me focus my thoughts and actions through the year. This year my word was "intentional". I was able to apply this to my prayer time, my actions, my words, and my time. Something else I would encourage you to do is start a devotion and prayer time with your family each day. If you need suggestions or resources to get started, please reach out to us and we will help guide you in the right direction.

We are looking forward to having your children and family as we bring our worship on Wednesdays and Sundays. Make sure to check out the church website and social media for upcoming events and ways to get involved!

In Christ,
Emerald



Come join us on Wednesday Nights from 6:30pm to 7:45pm for Bible Study.

On the first Wednesday nights of the month we have ALL-IN.



Adult Youth Ministry Leader Team:

Thank you so much for ALL THE MANY ways each of you are allowing God to use you to sacrificially serve within our Youth Ministry at Calvary. We appreciate all your time, gifts, and service as you serve our youth/students each week.

Youth Ministry Students 6th Grade to 12th Grade:



If you have any questions, please reach out to:

Steve Brown: 704-201-6676
Tiffany Manley: 704-690-0824
Jennifer Trull: 704-516-4013



Camp Dates

July 22nd-26th

\$300.00

Deposit of \$150.00 is due by February 11th

Registration Opens:

Calvary Youth:
Now

Friends of Calvary Youth:
January 7th



Youth Ministry Amazon Wishlist:

If you would be interested in donating items from our Wishlist you can visit this Amazon Wishlist link for more info:

Scan Here





Come join us on Campus at Sunday School

Sunday mornings at 9:30am (classes end at 10:15am)

This is intentional Small Group Bible Study! We believe Sunday School is one of the strongest arms of Discipleship in the local church today. We have Awesome Teachers! And we have a friendly place for Everyone in the family!

We have classes for the whole family.

Children and Youth Classes:

**Nursery to Age 2
Age 3 to Kindergarten
1 st to 3 rd Grades
4 th to 5 th Grades**

**6 th to 8 th Grade Middle School
9 th to 12 th Grade High School**

Adults Classes:

**Foundation
Community
Journey
New Beginnings
Soul Sisters**

Come grow in the Lord with us!

**"We Praise God and thank every single Sunday School Teacher
who sacrificially serves our Lord each and every week!
Thank you and All Glory to God!"**



YOU ARE INVITED!

What is Sunday School? It is the **STRONGEST ARM** of Discipleship in the local church community today.

What is Discipleship? It is Jesus' expectation for his followers that we are "to become more and more like Himself."
(Luke 6:40)

YOU ARE INVITED!

If you and your family are NOT currently involved and plugged in to a Sunday School small group, WE INVITE YOU to come. **Here are Four (4) very biblical reasons for believers to have your own Sunday School small group:**

1. **A Community reason!** Community was the practice of Jesus while He was on earth. If there is community in our Savior and Godhead, there should be community with believers, both large groups, and small groups. Community is important to God, and Sunday School is a great way for community to be built and strengthened.
2. **A Church Structure reason!** We, believers, the body of Christ are on mission. Breaking our large group into smaller groups is important to pursuing and achieving the mission. What is the mission? The Great Commission!! Matthew 28:16-20. And friends, you are important to the mission - we need you!
3. **A Relational Reason!** In my estimation the term "**ONE ANOTHER**" appears at least 39 times in the New Testament scriptures. God created you and I for relationships. We need each other as believers and as the Body of Christ. Sunday school is one very effective and proven way for us to practice the "**one another's**" we are taught in the New Testament.
4. **A Practical reason!** This one is obvious but often forgotten. **Sunday School is Church!** It is practical biblical church where ministry is accomplished, where spiritual growth occurs, and where everyone can be involved and serving. Through Sunday school everyone can exercise their God given spiritual gifts. Sunday school is a place where your spiritual gifts can be "unleashed" and used to edify the body of Christ.

Friends, if you are not currently plugged in to Sunday school, YOU ARE INVITED! All groups meet at 9:30am on Sunday mornings on the church campus. We are ready for you and your whole family!

May we leave you with a final truth: everyone, if you are able, should be in a Sunday school small group community. Everyone!

See you at Sunday School! God Bless You!
Steve Brown

(Reference: Lifeway, Allan Taylor, and J.I. Packer)

John 17: 20-21 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent me."



CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH

Music Ministry



We are in the season of Christmas and the joy of having all of our Music Ministries be a part of "Christmas Love, Embracing the Greatest Story ever told," our Calvary celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior. We would like to thank all those who have made this service of Worship and Praise possible. As we look ahead to the New Year, we will be anticipating learning new music and growing together in all areas of our music ministries. We will be beginning to work on our Easter worship time together as well as looking at other areas that we can add to grow our musical family here. Music is truly a great way to be involved in our worship together. I am honored to be a part of this and look forward to serving Him in 2024.

Frank Casstevens - Worship Director



Are there any members interested in joining the Worship Choir?

Come join us on Wednesday night's
7:45 pm (after Bible Study) until 8:15
pm in the Choir Loft.



Calvary Handbells



After the Christmas break, the Adult Handbell Choir will return to begin preparing for our spring season of ringing and is always looking for more ringers. We meet on Sundays immediately following the morning service in the Choir Room and will return January 21, 2024. If you are familiar with handbells and/or you read music, consider joining us. Please contact Randi Brinker (317) 979-0860 with any questions.

If you are 4th grade or older or an adult with little to no music or handbell experience and are interested in learning to ring, please contact Randi Brinker (317) 979-0860 for more information about a Ready to Ring Beginners group. Even if you have never rung handbells or don't consider yourself proficient in reading music, that's ok, there is a place for you.

Discover Calvary

A class for newcomers and guests to learn more about our church and the mission.



First Session: Jan 21st
Second Session: Jan 28th
9:15am- Check In Children
9:30am- 10:15am

We meet in Room #104
which is the
room across from
Pastor Eddie's office.

Completion of Both Sessions is Required for Membership.

Attention Newcomers, Guest, Visitors, and Prospective Members!!

Our next "Discover Calvary Class" (formerly the Newcomers Class) is coming up this month. We pray that you will put this meeting on your schedule and plan to join us for this informational class. We know that many of you are exploring and seeking where the Lord would have you SERVE and make your Church Home and Membership. The following is what we will present to you during these sessions together:

1. Family Introductions
2. Introduction of our Pastor and Staff
3. Brief Church History, Purpose Statement, Vision, and Beliefs
4. Eight (8) Doctrinal Statements
5. Review of All Calvary Ministries
6. Review of All discipleship opportunities at Calvary
7. What to expect from Calvary?
8. What are the expectations of the Church for the church members?
9. Requirements for Membership.
10. Next Steps after Membership.
11. How to get involved and SERVE?
12. Q & A

We look forward to seeing you soon. God Bless you and your family.

Steve and Angela Brown



Women's Ministry



In November 2023, members and friends of Calvary Baptist Women's Ministry took our annual weekend retreat to The Cove in Asheville where we spent time in God's Word learning about our identity in Christ. "Girl Talk" podcasters Kelly, Carol, and Tricia presented messages that built on the theme "I Am Not ____ Enough." The world tells us we aren't ____ enough (fill in the blank with whatever words you have learned to say to yourself), but God's Word tells us we are daughters of the King – precious, honored, chosen, and loved. We talked about listening to God's truth about who we are instead of the enemy's lies because God's grace is sufficient for us.



"Girl Talk" podcasters Kelly, Carol & Tricia - Friday night, Session 1

Participants in the weekend retreat commented that they "felt God the whole time." Others said they were thankful for "a safe place to share struggles." Many mentioned the feeling of warmth and security that permeated the weekend from the inviting nature of the guest speakers to the amazing fellowship, uplifting worship, delicious food, and beautiful accommodations.



Worship with Kelly Hudson



Minute to Win It Games
Saturday, Session 2



We're excited to announce that we'll be returning to the Cove for our annual retreat on November 22-24, 2024. Pray about joining us in the beautiful mountains of Asheville at The Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove. Please check the Women's Ministry page on Calvary's website in spring 2024 for more information.

Also coming in 2024 – small group leaders will be in intersession training for the month of January. We are studying *Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World* by Joanna Weaver. Our aim is to deepen our own relationships with God so that we may pour from full cups into the lives of the ladies we interact with in our small group Bible studies and elsewhere in our lives.

Please be aware of these tentative dates (These dates are subject to change):

- Women's Ministry Fellowship Meal coming in January (date and location TBA – watch th Women's Ministry Facebook page or contact the church office.)
- Spring Small Group Bible Study offerings will be available online for sign up in mid-January.
- Spring Study kickoff dinner in the fellowship hall February 12
- Spring studies will start the week of February 19

May God Bless You,
Women's Ministry Leadership Team

MEN'S MINISTRY



MARCH 22-24, 2024



We would love to help you take that next step in your walk with Jesus! If you have accepted Christ as your personal savior, it's time to go public with your faith. Baptisms are happening at Calvary on January 7th!

Sign up online (see the Events page on the church website).



HELLO

my name is

Greeters and Ushers strive to make every guest, attender and member feel welcomed and loved by experiencing the warmth and kindness of the Calvary family. Our team offers the love of Christ to all that enter the building by offering a friendly greeting, guidance for those that need a helping hand and connection for those looking for a place to serve. This is a great ministry for families and those looking to share the love of Calvary with both newcomers and current members.

The Connections Ministry is always looking for friendly people to serve as greeters and ushers for either Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. If you are interested in serving on this ministry team, please stop by the Welcome Desk and talk to either Randi Brinker or Sandy Tarlton.

WELCOME

Do you enjoy writing cards? We would like to have you join us in Calvary's Card Ministry.


Please contact Edwina Starnes at 704-289-6650 or email her at edwinastarnes@gmail.com





Church Member Covenant

As a member, I commit to the body of Christ, the church (1 Corinthians 12:27; Romans 12:4-5).

As a member at Calvary Baptist Church, I will fulfill the following expectations:

- 1. I will worship the one true God with other Calvary Baptist church members for as long as I am physically able (Hebrews 10:24-25; Romans 12:1). The goal of my regular weekly worship is to give God glory (Romans 11:36; Hebrews 13:15).**
- 2. I will grow spiritually through regular involvement in groups and classes at Calvary Baptist Church in addition to regular personal devotional times. I understand the purpose of these groups and classes is building community with other believers and holding each other accountable (Acts 2:44-47; 2 Timothy 3:16-17).**
- 3. I will serve Christ through the mission work of Calvary Baptist Church. I am created to serve others through good works (Ephesians 2:10; 1 Peter 4:10). I am commanded by God to make disciples of every nation, tribe, people and language through the local church (Matthew 28:16-20; Revelation 7:9). I will support the church's mission to go to the ends of the earth to share the gospel (Acts 1:8).**
- 4. I will give to God abundantly and joyfully, recognizing God as the owner of all things (Proverbs 3:9; Psalm 24:1). Giving my tithe and time to God brings me closer to Him (Malachi 3:10; Matthew 6:19-24).**
- 5. I will seek unity with other church members. I recognize God's design for the church is unity in diversity, and I will put the interests of others above my personal preferences (Ephesians 4:1-6; 1 Peter 3:8-9).**

I will guard the reputation of the church and submit to discipline for any sin problems in my life (Matthew 18:15-20).
- 6. I will pray for and follow the leadership of Calvary Baptist Church (Hebrews 13:17-18). I will pray privately and with the church corporately. I will pray for people to accept Christ, and I will pray for more disciples to grow.**
- 7. I will sacrifice by serving first, following the servant model of Jesus Christ (Mark 10:45). I will make my attitude that of Christ and through humility make the gospel my priority (Philippians 2:5-11).**

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY



Francis Cunningham
Chad Starnes' Grandmother

Jack Sistare
Harold Sistare's Brother

Mary Jo Lukey
Mark Lukey's Mother

Hazel Mangum
Iris Whiteside & Donna Funderburk's
Mother

Shelia Moysakis
Abby Rape's Mother

CONGRATULATIONS!



Grant & Molly Bartlett

married

December 1, 2023



WELCOME BABY!



Colton Allen Rutledge

October 2, 2023

7 lbs., 14 ozs.

20-3/4" long

Parents:
Hunter & Bethany Rutledge

Grandparents:
Lynn & Annette Greene



Calvary Calendar

January



- Jan 1 - New Year's Day (office closed)
- Jan 7 - Baptism
- Jan 8 - Deacon's Meeting
- Jan 13 - Men's Ministry Breakfast
- Jan 15 - Member Information due for Directory
- Jan 18 - Preschool Parent Info Meeting
- Jan 21 - Communion during Worship Service
- Jan 21 - Discover Calvary (Class #1)
- Jan 21 - Communion during Worship Service
- Jan 22 - TK/Kindergarten Interest Meeting
- Jan 28 - Discover Calvary (Class #2)
- Jan 31 - Spaghetti Dinner for Youth Camp

- Feb 5 - Deacon's Meeting
- Feb 12 - Women's Ministry Kickoff Dinner
- Feb 14 - Valentine's Day
- Feb 19 - Women's Bible Studies Begin

February



March



- Mar 4 - Deacon's Meeting
- Mar 6 - Ministry Leadership Team Meeting
- Mar 17 - Preschool Sunday
- Mar 21 - Palm Sunday & Communion
- Mar 31 - Easter Sunday (Sunrise Service and Worship/Baptism).
No Sunday School.



We have some exciting news for the CBC Family! We have set up the on-line directory. It will not go live until everyone's information has been entered. We want to have the directory available as soon as possible so we are asking you have your information to the office no later than January 15th.

Please fill out the information form including if you are a part of a ministry team/group (the form will be made available on the church website).

(For anyone having trouble or if you do not have a way of accessing the site, please contact Kathy or Debbie in the office who will be glad to help you).



Church Directory Information

Family Last Name _____

Adult Name(s) _____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

Children's Name(s) _____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

_____ Birthdate _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Family Phone # _____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y ___ N

Family Email _____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

Phone (each person) _____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow txt msg ___ Y ___ N

Email (each person) _____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

_____ *Allow email ___ Y ___ N

Anniversary _____

**From time to time we may send texts or emails to you from the church with news for upcoming events. If you do not wish to receive them, please indicate next to each phone or email listed.*

Birthdays, Anniversaries & Dates to Remember

January

1 **New Year's Day (Office Closed)**
1 Dwayne McWhirter
2 Karen Keller
3 Minnie Hyde
3 Alexis Helms
3 Adeline (Addie) Crater
3 CJ & Lynn Stikeleather
4 Dan Hinson
4 Brittany Plyler
4 Larry White
4 Kindley Hargette
5 Kaitlyn Laney
7 **Baptism**
7 Grant Bartlett
7 Ryder Price
8 Bethany Rutledge
8 Jacqueline Howard
8 Matt Long
8 **Deacon's Meeting**
9 Brian Morris
13 Rev. Eddie & Robin Price
13 Ethan Hooks
13 Savannah Martin
13 **Men's Ministry Breakfast**
14 Gary Pressley
14 Morgan Jordan
15 Henry & Libby Underwood
15 Renee Melton
15 Jamie Tarlton
16 Tiffany Manley
17 Carley Moore Davis
17 Isaiah Scott (2008)
19 Donald Melton
20 Candice Trull
20 Donna Godfrey
21 Brittany Laney
21 **Communion**
21 **Discover Calvary Class #1**
22 Hollis Harrington
22 Selah Jordan
24 Carolyn Moore
25 Frank Casstevens
26 Victoria Burroughs
27 Waylon Boon
27 Katie Plyer Brantley
27 Smith & Carole Wilson
28 **Discover Calvary Class #2**
29 Lisa Morton
29 Tanner Melton
31 Kayla Hardy
31 **Spaghetti Dinner for Youth Camp**

February

1 Mike & Pam Wilson
1 Ashley Howard
1 Kacey Laney
2 Jean Brantley
3 Lisa Gutierrez
3 Rachel Scott
4 Fran Batson
4 B.L. Starnes
4 Mike Helms
5 **Deacon's Meeting**
5 Dillan & Elaine Penegar
5 Aubrey Howard
5 Everette Sparks
6 Steve & Angela Brown
7 Tripp Plyler
8 Dina Moser
9 Andrew Blackwelder
9 Tyson Manley
9 Heidi Mohney
10 Chad Starnes
11 Emma Yannett
12 **Women's Bible Study Kickoff**
13 Sandra Batson
15 Jenna Johnson
16 Reagan Blackwelder
17 Lindsey Russell
19 **Women's Bible Study Starts**
20 Ron & Leigh Anne Dennis
20 Brenda Brown
21 Jamie & Sandy Tarlton
21 Josie Burroughs
22 Mike Wilson
23 Rebecca Simmons
23 Beth Hargette
24 Darrell & Marlinde Trifon
24 Amber Beekman
24 Selah Helms
26 Axton Rea
26 Gavin Melton
26 Haven Jordan
27 Carole Wilson
27 Baylee Morton
28 Betty Godfrey

March

1 Dillon Hardy
1 Mercy Helms
2 Kayla Tomberlin
2 Aden Helms
3 Jane Terrell
3 Nyel Scott
4 **Deacon's Meeting**
4 Debbie Easley
6 **MLT Meeting**
6 Ashton Helms
7 Susan Medlin
7 Tommy & Carolyn Moore
9 Mike & Angi Derby
10 Kelly Price
11 Sam Starnes
11 Alice Melton
12 Nora Jordan
12 Jen Helms
13 Chris Moore
14 Chad & Kelly Price
14 Kathy Fuss
14 Josh Jeffries
15 Jim Carpenter
16 Chris & Emily Sparks
16 Racquel Fisher
16 Matt Greene
17 **Preschool Sunday**
17 Randi Brinker
18 Aubryn Helms
19 Tripp & Amanda Plyer
20 Wendy Gagatch
20 Rhett Younts
20 Debbie Keziah
21 Samuel Griffin Starnes
21 Tim Richardson
21 Kaelyn Laney
22 **Men's Conference (22nd-24th)**
23 Stephen Fisher
24 **Palm Sunday/Communion**
24 Casie Luther
25 Betty Smith
25 Olivia Bartlett
26 Heather Hooks
26 Wendy Laney
26 Hudson Crater
28 Angela Ammons
29 Jessica Helms-Rea
30 Scott & Wendy Laney
31 **Easter Sunday/Baptism**
(Sunrise & 10:30 Worship,
No Sunday School)

Guest



Connect



Give



www.cbcmmonroe.org