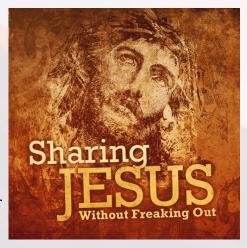


## **New Sermon Series**

If you've been around a while, you probably know that Jesus told his disciples, "You will be my witnesses." (Acts 1:8) We've been given a commission to share our faith! And while most of us want to tell others about Jesus, sometimes we hesitate. We worry that we won't be able to answer questions. We fear that we'll have to get outside our comfort zones. And sometimes, it feels like the ways we've been taught to witness don't "fit the needs" of the people we know and the situations we encounter. So, how can we "be witnesses" in a way that doesn't require knowing all the answers, that honors our unique personality, and that helps people discover the love of Christ?

To answer these questions, our pastor will share a new sermon series in the weeks after Easter called, "Sharing Jesus without Freaking Out." The dynamics of witnessing have changed. But rather

than making us anxious, this frees us to be who we are, to see witness as "our opportunity" rather than "my responsibility," and to trust in God's Spirit, knowing that it's His work (not ours) to lead people to Christ. So, we hope you'll bring your questions, your witnessing experiences (both good and bad), and your desire to see all people discover God's love and join us for worship this month.



### **Drive-Thru Meal**

Calvary's Coed 1 Sunday School Class will sponsor our final Drive-Thru Community Meal of the spring on Wed., April 14, beginning at 6 PM. Thank you for the prayers, gifts, and participation that have made it possible for us to bless families who've been stressed by the pandemic. This month, we plan to give away as many as 150 meals (limit of 4 per car) that will include hamburger steak, two sides, and a roll. Once again, if you'd like to assist by making a financial gift or helping to distribute meals, we'd love to get you involved. To give, sign -up, or get more information, please contact Kim Morrison or Benny Lisk.

# **VBS Rides Again!**

Among the many opportunities for lifechange that fell by the wayside during last year's pandemic was Vacation Bible School. But now that things are opening up again, we are eager to provide our church family with an even more exciting time of growth and fellowship through VBS 2021. Planning for this event has now begun. So, we hope you'll mark your calendar for June 13-16 and that you'll begin to pray for our kids, our youth, and our adults to have an awesome experience. We're seeking volunteers who can help with decorations, crafts, music, registration, recreation, and snacks. And we'll also need group leaders who can guide groups of kids through each night's activities. Ashley Mills will serve as our VBS coordinator; so please contact her (336/403-1170 or ahmills11@ yahoo.com) for more information or to get involved.



Calvary Baptist Church Vacation Bible School 2021 June 13 to 16, 2021

# Ten Years Ago...

It seems a little hard for even me to believe, but as of April 1, I will have been the pastor here at Calvary Baptist for ten years. There's no way that I can express my gratitude for the support and encouragement that you've given me along the way. And even more important, there's no way that I can express my gratitude for the way that you have sought and served Jesus along the way! You have loved God; you have loved each other; you have blessed our community, and it continues to be my honor to be part of such wonderful church.

Of course, being together for that long means that we've experienced more than a few of life's changes and challenges together. Some of these changes have been joyful—like graduations, marriages, and births. Others have been painful—like illnesses, injuries, and deaths. Even after only 10 years, I miss so many faces of brothers and sisters who I know I won't see again until we see each other in God's presence. And then, of course, some changes—like the ones that have come our way during this year of coronavirus disruptions—have simply been confusing and frustrating. But through it all, I have seen you trust God...and put up with me...and I can't wait to see where God will take us next.

On that note, there clearly remains work for us to do! "Coming back" from the coronavirus will take our prayer, creativity, and commitment. And then, too, I'm convinced that the Lord wants to see us become even more fruitful in the way that we introduce others to Jesus, transform lives, and serve our community. I don't have all the answers about where that journey will take us. But I'm happy to take it with you! And I hope that you'll always feel like my door is open to listen to you, to dream with you, and to pray with you for God to make our next ten years even more fruitful than the last.

Thank you for giving me the privilege of being your "Pastor Alex." I will keep trying to live up to that title.

Grace and peace,

Paston Alex

# **Dear Calvary...**

We are blessed to have the support of Calvary Baptist church. We were in need of cereal and you went above and beyond by donating 518 boxes of cereal. Thank you very much for all that you do!

### Yokefellow Ministry

Words cannot express our gratitude for your kindness, support, and the many prayers shown to our family during the passing of Ray. Each of you is so special to us. Thank you to the ladies of the church for bringing a wonderful meal along with the most delicious desserts. Thank you for all the personal calls, messages, and sympathy cards conveyed to us. The service was just beautiful. It was moving, sweet, loving and just perfect. Ray would have been so proud, and I'm sure he was smiling from Heaven at Alex's shirt. I love my church family, all of you. And Ray loved you too. Please continue your prayers for me and my family as we transition without Ray in our daily lives. Again, thank you for everything.

# Vernell Goins along with Kim, Ben and Family

Thank you so much! We received the clothes for the kids at Flat Rock Elementary. They were greatly appreciated.

Julie Hornady and Peggy Hornady

You really don't know how grateful I am for your help through this difficult time in my family's life. Craig is still having one to two doctor's appointments a week. Knowing my church and my family are there for us means a lot. Please know how grateful we are.

### Susan Slate and Family

Thank you for the many ways you expressed your appreciation to me for my 19 years of service at Calvary Baptist Church: greeting cards, gift cards, emails, personal greetings, cakes, cupcakes and beautiful flowers. I am truly blessed to be part of this 'caring fellowship.

Thanks again, Billie Doyle

### **Gifts and Memorials**

### **In Memory of Ray Goins**

Randy and Sylvia Gentry
Anita Goins
Wilma Roberston
Bill Smith

### **In Memory of Dale Wall**

Wilma Roberson

### **Easter Sunday Schedule**

- 7:15—Sunrise Worship (Weather permitting)
- 8:30—Contemporary Worship
- 9:15—Easter Breakfast \*
- 9:45—Sunday School
- 10:55—Traditional Worship

### \* Note on Easter Breakfast

A "pick-up" breakfast will be available in the fellowship hall from 9:15 to 9:45 on Easter morning. Everyone is invited to pick up a biscuit and juice or coffee (all pre-packaged for safety and convenience) and enjoy them in their Sunday School classroom or in the limited seating available in the fellowship hall.

### Special Note for Kids on Easter

On Easter Sunday morning, during the kids' regular Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45), we will be walking our kids through different stations that take us through some of the key events that happened leading up to and including the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There will be drama, crafts, and of course a little candy involved. Again, our kids Easter event will take place DURING Sunday School as to not mess up the normal flow of the morning...so, kids should be dropped off as normal for Sunday School at 9:45am and be picked up from their classes as normal at 10:45am.Hope that all of your sweet kids can join us!

# April 2021

Sat	3 Linda Vaughn	10	17 William Hart Ken Nowlin	24 Windham Martin Cassidy Mills	
Fri	2 Evann Shelnutt Catha Stroupe	9 Clay Foutz	16 Gracelyn Beasley Margaret Beasley Todd Beverly Rex Hardy	23 Michael Inscore	30
Thu	1 Judy Meinecke	8 Norris Jarrell Ryane Nester	15 Antonia Cawley Brian Greene Stan Wilson	22 Kim Vaughn	29
Wed		7 Kathlyn Mauck	14	21 Bill Norman, Jr. Beth Williams	28 Aidan Crouse Garrett Hamby Ben Jarrell
Tue		6 Ryan Critz Caroline Mills	13	20 Benny Lisk	27 Melissa Hart
Mon		5 Anita Goins	12 Jill Shelton Tony Varney	19 Linda Gordon	26 Kenneth Foutz
Sun		4 Mallie Hodges Keith Moser	11 Frank Boyd Rocky Hudson Rachel Jarrell	18 David Stone	25 Campbell Montgomery Andrea Phillips