



# Calvary Herald

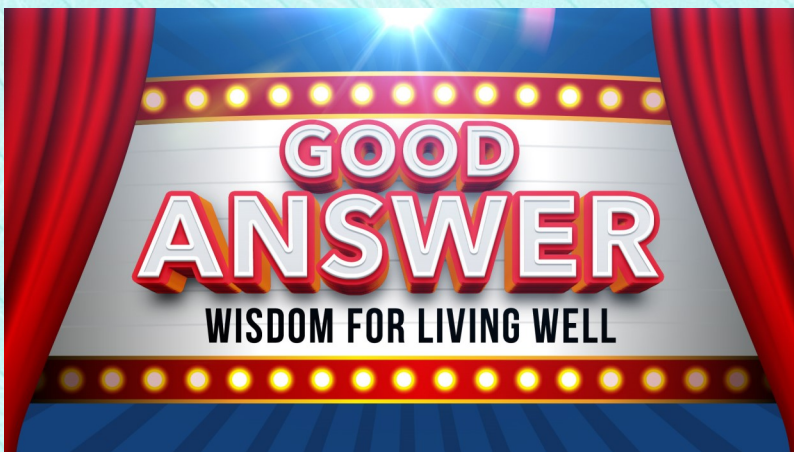
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## Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You

One of the Bible's recurring themes is the sheer goodness of what God desires for us. When He created the world and our place in it, He said that it was "very good" (Gen. 1:31). Jesus came "to proclaim good news" (Luke 4:18). And even the Apostle Paul said that "God works for the good of those who love Him" (Rom. 8:28). Too often, however, the "good life" eludes us. How can we pursue and receive the good that God intends?

One resource for answering that question is the Bible's wisdom literature. In books like Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes, God speaks through sages and kings, passing along the common sense and keen insight that allow us to align our lives with His purpose and so receive the good He wants to give.

This month, we'll be looking at some of these life-giving insights in a sermon series that our pastor is calling "Good Answer: Wisdom for Living Well." Each week, we'll examine one passage that equips us not just to "do good" but to "become good" as we're conformed more completely to the character of the Father who made us.



## Blessing of the Backpacks

The beginning of a new school year can be a time of anxiety and anticipation for children and their families. And in a church like Calvary where quite a few members are involved in local schools, it can also be a time that brings big changes in schedules and stress levels. That's why our church would like to mark the new school year with a "Blessing of the Backpacks."



On Sunday, August 22, we're inviting all the pre-school, grade-school, middle-school, and high-school students in our church family to bring their backpacks to worship. During the service, we'll have a special time of prayer for kids, their families, and all those who serve in local schools, asking God to guide and bless them and to use the coming year to help them grow as followers of Christ.



## Laying the Groundwork for Future Faithfulness

When you think about what it takes for a church to serve the Lord, leadership and budget structures might not be the first thing (or the most inspiring thing) that jumps to mind. And yet, without a dedicated team of leaders and a realistic financial plan, it's almost impossible to make the plans that allow a congregation to flourish. That's why our Nominating Committee and our Finance Committee are already hard at work, enlisting people to use their gifts and preparing a budget that will guide our ministries in the year ahead. If you'd like to know more about our ministry teams—or if you'd like to claim your spot in ministry—we encourage you to contact Bob McPherson ([mcphersonb@gmail.com](mailto:mcphersonb@gmail.com) or 336/786-8748). And if you have questions about Calvary's stewardship—or you'd like to recommend something for inclusion in the budget—we invite you to contact Jan Varney ([jvarney.jv@gmail.com](mailto:jvarney.jv@gmail.com) or 336/789-2249). Let's step up and make the commitments to serving and giving that will lay the groundwork for faithful ministry in 2022.



## Blood Drive: September 5

Calvary will be sponsoring its next Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, Sept. 5, from 11 AM to 3:30 PM. As always, there is an urgent need for blood in our community. So if you're eligible, we encourage you to donate. To reserve a donation time, you can make an appointment by visiting [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). And even if you can't donate, you can support the effort by volunteering to register donors or to staff the snack area. To volunteer, please contact Mary Jane Shelton (336/401-5849).



## Servants Wanted: Nominating Calvary's Deacons



Calvary is blessed to have dedicated deacons who provide leadership for our church family and support for its members. In fact, our current deacons have shown “extra devotion,” because they all agreed to serve an additional year when last year's pandemic shutdown forced us to suspend our normal selection process. But now that the rhythms of church life are getting back to normal, we want to give a well-deserved break to deacons who've been serving – and prayerfully call new deacons whom God has gifted to serve.

Our deacon selection process will take place on Sunday, August 15. Anyone who is a member of Calvary is entitled to nominate as many as five individuals to serve a three-year term. Deacon nominees can be men or women who are 21 years old or older, who have been members of the church for at least two years, and who possess the qualities that are mentioned in passages like Acts 6:3 and 1 Timothy 3:1-12. Deacons who are currently serving cannot be re-nominated, so this excludes the following individuals: Sam Critz, Mike Francis, Phil Hiatt, Ralph Hiatt, Brent Hull, Danny Lineberry, Benny Lisk, Tony Martin, Bob McPherson, Lee Mills, Kent Moser, Doug Odell, Gray Shelton, Earl Varney.

Using these nominations, a slate of new deacons will be prepared and presented to the church before the end of August. A vote of affirmation on this slate of deacons will take place on Sunday, September 12. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Alex or Doug Odell, the current deacon chair.



## This Month On-Mission

August is shaping up to be an active month of mission engagement for the Calvary Baptist family. Many of our members, families, and Sunday School classes have already signed up to provide clothing and other supplies for students in need at Franklin Elementary through our “Back-to-School Blessing” project, and the wish-lists and size information for those students should be available later this month. In addition, Calvary will be providing a small “encouragement gift” for teachers and staff at Franklin this month as a way of expressing our support and assuring them of our prayers. Finally, we will also be delivering a meal to our homebound members on Wednesday, August 18. If you’d like to know more about how you can be involved in these ministries, please contact Jan Varney ([jvarney.jv@gmail.com](mailto:jvarney.jv@gmail.com) or 336/401-5640). Thank you for all the ways that you make it possible for us to be “on-mission” in our community!



## Lord's Supper on August 29

It's hard to imagine that it has been more than a year since our church family was able to celebrate the Lord's Supper. During the pandemic shutdown, we reluctantly suspended this vital reminder of our Lord's love and sacrifice to safeguard our worshipers. But thankfully, we believe that conditions have improved. And so, we plan to celebrate the Lord's Supper again on Sunday, August 29. Because we know that some members still have legitimate concerns about potential illness, however, we will use pre-filled communion supplies that provide both juice and a gluten-free communion wafer in a two-part sealed container. We hope that you can celebrate the Supper with us as we embrace our Lord's invitation to “Do this in remembrance of me.”

## Make a Joyful Noise!

Please consider this your personal invitation to sing in our traditional service choir! As you might have noticed, the challenges of this past year have taken a toll on our ensemble. We've lost some members due to illness and other life changes, and we're eager to rebuild our ensemble. Thankfully, all it takes is people who are willing to try! There's no experience necessary; and if you enjoy “making a joyful noise,” we'd love to have you sing with us. Do you have an interest in singing, but don't want to leave a spouse or friend sitting alone in the sanctuary? No problem! We'd be happy to have you sing the “choir special” and then return to your seat in the sanctuary. We currently rehearse on Wednesday nights at 6:30. Please feel free to give it a try, and if you have any questions, just contact Minister of Music Teresa Martin ([teresabmartin125@gmail.com](mailto:teresabmartin125@gmail.com) or 336/745-5988).

**SHOUT FOR JOY TO  
THE LORD, ALL THE  
EARTH! MAKE A LOUD  
NOISE, REJOICE AND  
SING PRAISE!**

**PSALM 98:4**