



# Calvary Herald

MAY 2024—VOLUME 55—ISSUE 5

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CALVARY!

On Sunday, May 5, the Calvary Church family will celebrate 110 years of serving Christ in Mount Airy and beyond. And because we'd like everyone to be part of the festivities, we're making this a "One Calvary" Sunday. This means that, in place of our normal Sunday morning schedule, we'll have Sunday School at 9 o'clock and worship for the entire congregation at 10 o'clock, with an anniversary lunch immediately after worship.

To make the meal as "low stress" as possible, most of our menu—which features chicken, barbecue, baked beans, creamed potatoes, potato salad, hush puppies, rolls, and two kinds of slaw—will be catered. However, we are inviting our talented bakers to bring a dessert to share.

As is our custom here at Calvary, we'll be receiving an anniversary offering that allows us to tackle special projects not included in our regular budget. This year's offering will be used to make some much-needed roof repairs. So please plan to be with us as we give God the glory for all that has been – and look forward with anticipation to all that will be!

## Red Cross Blood Drive

Calvary will host its next Red Cross Blood Drive on Sunday, May 19 from 11:00 to 3:30 in the Fellowship Hall. This drive will be dedicated to the loving memory of Brent Hull, and so we're praying for an exceptionally good turnout. If you'd like to get on the donation schedule, please visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or contact Mary Jane Shelton. We will also be seeking willing servants who can register donors and staff the snack area. If you're interested in that opportunity, you also are encouraged to contact Mary Jane Shelton.



## Expressions of Thanks

Dear Calvary Baptist,

On behalf of North Surry High School, I would like to extend our deepest gratitude for your generous gifts. We are so thankful, and our students will love the “Blessing Bags” you have provided!

Debbie Nixon, Guidance Office

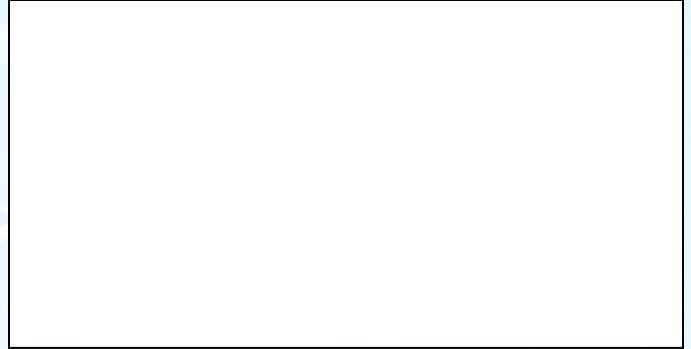
The Calvary Church Family would like to express our thanks to all those who gave gifts last month in memory and in honor of special people:

- **In Memory of Gray Beverly:** Vernell Goins and Kim Poindexter, Jim and Lilnette Phillips, Owen and Sandra Stone
- **In Memory of Brent Hull:** Vernell Goins and Kim Poindexter
- **In Memory of Norma Hiatt:** Roger and Donna Keck, Jim and Lilnette Phillips
- **In Memory of Bobby and Greg Watson:** Bonnie Watson
- **In Memory of Robert McKinney:** Roger and Carol Jarrell, Jim & Lilnette Phillips
- **In Honor of Brenda Barfield:** Vernell Goins
- **In Honor of Lillie Mae Haynes:** Vernell Goins



## Baby Shower of Blessings

Thanks to everyone at Calvary who participated in April’s “Baby Shower of Blessings.” Because of your generosity, we’ve delivered more than 1500 diapers to The Legacy Center, along with several containers of baby wipes, a diaper bag, and an assortment of baby clothes.



You might be glad to hear that we won’t be asking you to make donations to another community ministry in the month of May. However, you’ll still be blessing our community! Because of your faithful stewardship and your generous giving, Calvary will be providing an “End of Year” meal for teachers and staff at Franklin Elementary School, and we’ll be providing paper products and cleaning supplies for “Your Father’s House,” a local ministry that provides a safe and supportive environment for people who are in recovery from alcohol addiction.

Please continue to pray that the Lord will lead our church to needs He wants us to meet—and that He’ll give us the compassion to respond with open hearts.

## Dive into VBS: June 2-6, 2024

Summer is almost here! And naturally, that means that Vacation Bible School can’t be far behind! So we’d like to encourage you to gather the kids, grab your beach gear, and get ready for “**SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God,**” which will take place here at Calvary from June 2 to June 6. Each evening, kids will experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God as they immerse themselves in God’s Word and discover what living water is really all about. The fun gets underway with a snack supper that will be served between 5:30 and 6 o’clock each night. And from 6 to 8:15, participants will enjoy Bible adventures, recreation, crafts, snacks, and lots of energetic worship with their friends.

But don’t think for a minute that the kids will be the only ones having fun! Adults are invited to participate in a study of the Bible’s most famous scuba diver: Jonah! Using video sessions created by Pastor David Platt, our own Pastor Alex will facilitate a discussion of how this famous “fish story” is really about the grace and compassion of God – and how it calls us to change our hearts so that we can carry out His purposes in the world. Our adult participants will meet in the chapel and will enjoy some light refreshments from 6:30, with our study beginning at 7 o’clock.



## An Update on Calvary's Recent Break-In

Dear Calvary Family,

As most of you are aware, a young man broke into our church facility on Saturday, April 20. He gained access by kicking the door at the elevator entrance until it bent enough for him open it. And once inside, he spent about an hour and half rummaging through the sanctuary along with the baptismal and storage areas that are located above and behind the choir loft. Sadly, he did do some damage, the most significant of which impacted the speakers and other components that are connected to the sanctuary organ. In addition, he did take a few items, none of which were of great value; and he committed several minor acts of vandalism, most of which should be relatively easy to repair.

Thankfully, the security cameras that we have installed around the church were able to provide police with a clear video of this young man entering the building and then leaving with the stolen items. And as a result, he was apprehended by the police before noon on Sunday, April 21.

In the wake of this break in—which seems to be an isolated event—our deacons, building and grounds committee, and audio/visual team have already been hard at work, making arrangements for the necessary repairs. At this time, it appears that the most challenging issue to address will be the damage done to the organ. At best, we will have to replace most of the speakers and related audio components; and at worst, we may have to replace the organ itself. However, we will keep you posted as more information becomes available.

For now, what I really encourage you to do is to thank God that the damage was minimal. And then, please pray. Pray for our church, as we take the steps needed to make repairs. And pray for the young man who committed these crimes, asking the Lord to use this incident to put his life on a more fruitful path.

Thank you for being a part of all the good things that God is doing at Calvary.

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Alex*

## Blue Ridge "Go-Tell" Crusade

Plans are moving ahead for the Blue Ridge "Go-Tell" Crusade, which will take place over four nights this September at Veterans Park. Because this special outreach event involves a partnership of more than 50 area churches and brings to bear the expertise of evangelist Rick Gage and his "Go Tell Ministries" organization, it offers a unique opportunity for us to impact our community with the gospel. And therefore, we're eager for members of our church family to be involved.



The next major opportunity for folks to plug in will take place this month on Tuesday, May 21. That evening (time and place to be announced) there will be an initial "organizational and training" session for all of the working teams that are needed to make the crusade a success. The working teams include:

Prayer	Outreach	Finance
Youth	Publicity	Music
Ushers	Hospitality	Arrangements
Counseling & Follow-Up		

If you'd like to sign up for one of these teams, please contact Pastor Alex, Lilnette Phillips, or Danny Lineberry to let them know the team on which you'd like to serve.

Of course, even if you cannot participate in these ways, you can join us in praying for the crusade! Please ask the Lord to provide the resources needed for this effort to bear fruit. Pray that our hearts will be prepared, so that we can participate in sharing the good news with others. And please pray that God's Spirit will be at work in the lives of those who need to know Jesus; so that, when the crusade arrives, they'll be ready to hear and to respond to His life-changing gospel.

We'll continue to keep you posted. And if you have any additional questions, please contact the church office.