



# Calvary Herald

SEPTEMBER 2021 — VOLUME 52 — ISSUE 9

## A World of Growth Is Coming Your Way!

This month, Calvary will be entering an exciting new ministry partnership that will give everyone in our church family unlimited access to **RightNow Media**—the world’s largest streaming library of video Bible study resources (it’s been called the “Netflix of video Bible studies”). This extensive library has more than 20,000 videos from leaders like Francis Chan, Jennie Allen, Matt Chandler, Dr. Tony Evans, and many more. These Bible study videos can be used as part of a group study or for personal devotions, and many series include free discussion guides and handouts.

Our church believes that RightNow Media is a tool that can help you live out your faith in every area of your life—at home, at work, and in your community. Along with studies on books of the Bible, RightNow Media has videos for everyone in your family on a variety of topics like marriage, parenting, personal finances, mental health, and more. There’s even a library just for kids with over 2,000 safe, entertaining videos. RightNow Media also has a free app that’s available on all major streaming devices so you and your family can access content anywhere, anytime.

In the coming days, you’ll be receiving an email invitation for FREE access to RightNow Media. (If you don’t receive it by September 15, be sure to check your spam folder or to contact the church office.) To get started, simply click

the link in the email, create your free account, and start browsing more than 20,000 inspiring videos. We pray that RightNow Media will be a blessing to you and your family!

**rightnow**  
MEDIA®

## Uplift Celebrates Twenty Years!

This month, Calvary will mark the 20th anniversary of our Uplift contemporary worship gathering. “The Early Service,” as it’s often known, has changed over the years. And a lot of different people have been involved. But over the course of the coming month, many of those former worship leaders will be helping us out on Sunday mornings. And at 7 PM on Saturday, September 11, there will be a special concert here at Calvary to celebrate the way that God has used this service to draw people to Himself. Even if you’re not a regular “Uplift” participant, we hope you’ll join us!

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## Deacon Nominations

The following individuals have been nominated by our church to serve as deacons: David McPeak, Clay Nowlin, Kenny Nowlin, Steve Simandle, and Jan Varney. A vote of affirmation will take place on Sunday, September 12.

## Backpack Fund Drive

For the past several years, Calvary has been the primary supporter of the Backpack program at Franklin Elementary School. Because of your faithfulness, kids from “food insecure” families have been receiving a weekly supplement of healthy things to eat, and we plan to continue this ministry in the coming school year. That’s why we’re sponsoring a “Fall Backpack Fund Drive” during the month of September, with the goal of collecting \$5000. It’s hard to overstate how much we rely on this support, because it costs approximately \$1000/month to purchase the food we provide for these students. Of course, we’ll also be relying on your support as we recruit teams to pack the food each month. To help us reach our goal, please designate your gift or online donation for the “Franklin Backpack Program.” Thank you for helping us to “be a blessing” to our community.



## New Sermon Series



When it comes to the Old Testament law, most of us probably know the Ten Commandments and little else. And while we want to be obedient to God’s decrees, we’re often unsure which biblical laws apply to us. No wonder many of us are eager to embrace the promise that Christ has set us free from the law, so that we don’t have to bear the burden of figuring it all out. And yet, the attitude of God’s ancient people was very different. Far from seeing the law as a burden, they understood God’s law to be a gift and a delight. To help us understand why, our pastor’s September sermon series will focus on the theme, “Sweeter than Honey: Old Covenant Law for New Covenant People.” Each week, we’ll investigate the law—what it is, why it matters, and how it applies—so that we can be encouraged instead of confused by God’s timeless guidance. We hope you’ll join us.

## Blood Drive

Calvary’s next Red Cross Blood Drive will be held in the fellowship hall on Sunday, September 5, from 11 AM to 3:30 PM. If you’re eligible to donate, you can register for an appointment by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). And even if you can’t donate, you can support the effort by serving as a volunteer. For more info, please contact Mary Jane Shelton.

## Baptist Men’s Pancake Breakfast:

The Baptist Men of the Surry Baptist Association will sponsor a pancake breakfast in the fellowship hall at Calvary on Saturday, September 18, from 7 AM to 10 AM. All donations will support the Handyman ministry that provides ramps and much-needed home repairs and renovations to those in need. If you’d like to know more about the breakfast – or about the ministry of Baptist Men – please contact Mike Francis.



## Christmas Music in September?!

Don’t look now, but it won’t be too long before Christmas is here! And no matter what you do to get ready, one of the ways that our choir prepares is to begin rehearsing our Christmas cantata now so that we’ll be ready in December to offer a beautiful time of worship for the entire church family! We invite anyone who is interested to participate! We spend the first 15 to 20 minutes of each choir rehearsal on Christmas music, after which all of our “Christmas singers” are welcome to go. (Of course, you’re also welcome to stay; we’d love to have more choir members!) Christmas rehearsals will begin September 8 at 7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary. Please join us!

## Youth Ministry Update

As the new school year begins, Calvary's youth ministry is up and running! All of our middle school and high school students are encouraged to join us for our weekly Encounter Bible studies, which meet on Sunday nights from 5:00 to 6:30 and that give us a chance to dive into scripture, to pray together, to eat, and to share some laughs. In addition, our youth will be travelling to Oak Island over the Labor Day weekend for a fall retreat. The goal of this time together will be to get kids away from their screens, their "daily grind," and all the pressures that too-easily pull their hearts away from Jesus – so that they can center their hearts and minds on Jesus as they begin a new school year. Please continue to pray for our young people as they navigate the stresses and temptations of our broken world, asking Christ to work in them and to draw their hearts closer to Him and to each other. If you'd like to know more about our youth ministry priorities and activities, please contact Alex Bracey.

## Mid-Week Ministries Resume September 8

Calvary's Mid-Week ministries will kick-off their fall session on Wednesday, September 8. Because of the current rate of COVID transmission in our community, there will be a couple minor adjustments. Most notably, we will not be providing a community meal, and we will be inviting participants to wear a mask while indoors. But even with these minor changes, Wednesday nights will still provide opportunities for growth and fellowship. We'll start with a snack supper at 5:45; with a children's music time, Mission Friends, GA's, RA's, youth, and adult studies beginning at 6:15. Adults will have two study options: a "devotional study" led by Pastor Alex, and a video-based study led by one of our excellent teachers.

## Women's Bible Study

A new women's Bible study will soon begin! This fall, we'll be learning from Jennie Allen how to submit our minds to the mind of Christ through her study, "Get Out of Your Head." This biblical guide reminds us that how we think impacts how we live. And so, as we surrender every thought to Jesus, the promises of God flood our lives in profound ways. The study will take place from 5:00 to 6:30 on Sunday nights at the MACS Community Central Office, beginning on September 12 and running through October 17. A snack supper will be provided. Reach out to Carol Lowe (cnlowe@yahoo.com) or Kim Morrison (kmorrison@mtairy.k12.nc.us) to learn more.

### Dear Calvary

Thank you so much for the meal you provided last month. We enjoyed it very much!

Frank, Gracie and Teresa Boyd

### Contributions

In Honor of Mary Jo White and Cathy Stevens  
by Jim and Lilnette Phillips

## New Short-Term Sunday School Class

What does it mean to be chosen by God? This short-term study will include weekly viewings of the biblically-based TV series *The Chosen*, followed by individual Bible study and group discussion. The study guide, co-written by the producer of the series, guides participants to an in-depth exploration of the scriptural context around the show and facilitates free-form discussion in a small group setting. This experience is impactful for everyone, regardless of where you are in your walk with Christ.

The Chosen is an amazing, biblically-centered, quality video series that tracks the life of Jesus through the gospels. The opportunity to watch the life of Jesus in a fresh way, in conjunction with reading the gospels and interacting with others about it, will touch your life in a deeply meaningful way.

The study will begin on Sunday, September 12, at 9:45 a.m. and continue for nine weeks. To sign up for the study, or if you'd just like more information, contact Becky Critz at bcritz1129@gmail.com or 336-341-8249 (call or text).

