

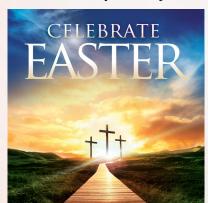
Celebrate the Savior this Easter!

Of all the moments that we share together as a family of faith, none has greater potential to change our lives and the life of the world than the moment we gather together on Easter morning to declare that "Christ Is Risen! He Is Risen, Indeed!" Because our Savior has defeated sin and death, we can live with confident hope, knowing that we will share an eternity with the Lord in a world that's been made new!

That's why we hope you'll be able to join the Calvary family as we celebrate Easter on April 20. And that's why we want you to know that our Easter schedule is going to look a little different than it has in recent years.

For starters, our Easter Sunrise Service will literally be an Easter Sunrise Service. For those who are hearty enough to do so, we'll gather at 6:45 on Easter morning at a property that Lee Mills owns at 459 Red Brush Road. With a beautiful view that overlooks much of Surry County and allows us to see Pilot Mountain in the distance, it will be the perfect place to share a brief time of prayer and praise as we watch the light of God's new day dawn over our community.

Even if you can't join us at sunrise, we hope you will plan to celebrate



the rest of Easter morning with the Calvary family. We'll share an Easter breakfast at 8:30, followed by Sunday School at 9:30 and worship at 10:30. And to top it all off, we invite all the kids and their families to stick around after worship for our annual Easter Egg Hunt.

It promises to be a great day. But it won't be complete without you! So please make plans to be with us as we celebrate Resurrection Life!



Easter Missions Offering: Good News for Hard Times

As Easter approaches, we give thanks for all that Jesus did to save us from our brokenness and to give us the hope of new life. But as we're reminded almost every day, there are still countless thousands here in our country and around the world who desperately need to hear that message. Of course, the task seems so large; we may wonder how we can make a difference. But as our pastor reminds us from time to time: "Small things done with great love will change the world."

With that faith in mind, we encourage you to consider how you'd like to participate in this year's Easter Missions Offering. Our church's goal for this year is \$4000. And while none of us can give that whole amount, giving what we can will make a difference. And when our gifts are combined with those of other churches, we can help to insure that the light of Christ shines brightly in the places that need it most.

As always, you can choose to designate your gift toward Andy and Cari Robertson (our missionaries to central Africa), the Annie Armstrong Offering (the SBC's annual collection for North American missions), or the Global Missions Offering (the CBF's ongoing collection for missions). Or you can leave your gift undesignated, and we'll divide it equally among these causes.

EASTER MISSIONS OFFERING





What Will Help You Grow?

It might be hard to believe, but our journey through the Big Story of the Bible that began last September will be wrapping up at the end of May. Hopefully, we've been developing a deeper understanding of how God wants to work in us and in the world. And we'll be taking the journey again next fall, focusing on a whole new set of biblical stories and characters.

But before we get to that, we'll be taking the summer months to focus on the questions and issues that would be most beneficial for your growth in Christ. And that's why Pastor Alex is encouraging you to get ready for this year's "Summer Sermon Survey."

Toward the end of this month, we'll be distributing a short questionnaire in worship and by email that will invite you to tell the pastor what you need to hear. And you can prepare to participate in that survey by asking yourself questions like these:

- What are the growing edges of your faith these days? (Are there truths you want to understand? Spiritual practices you'd like to develop? Challenges you need to overcome?)
- Are there books of the Bible, biblical characters, or key beliefs you'd like to know more about?
- What sermon topics would you be most eager to invite others to hear?

The pastor takes your input very seriously. So please be thinking and praying as we look forward to a summer filled with good friends, good times, and (if we're lucky) a few good sermons!

This Month at Faith, Fun & Fellowship: Guess Who?



April's Faith, Fun, and Fellowship gathering will take place in Calvary's fellowship hall on Wednesday, April 2, at 11 am. And we need your help to make it a success! We'll be playing a guessing game to get better acquainted. And so we'd like you to jot down some "little known facts" about yourself, so that we can guess which facts go with which person. Maybe you won a special award, or visited an unusual place, or met a famous person. Whatever it is, come prepared to share, guess, and discover new things.

Refreshments will be provided, and everyone is invited!

This Month's Mission: Blessing New Life

Each month, the mission team at Calvary seeks to provide a way that members of our church family can play an active role in blessing our community. And in April, we're inviting you to bless some of the most vulnerable residents of our community by supporting the work of *The Legacy Center*, Mount Airy's ministry to women and their families who are facing an unexpected pregnancy.

We'll be collecting items that are used most frequently by the ministry, which include baby wipes, diapers (especially in sizes 3, 4, and 5), and new infant clothes (in sizes 2T and 3T). And if you, your family, or your Sunday School class would like to contribute something more substantial, you can also team up to provide a new car seat, stroller, or crib. If you have any questions,



please contact Jan Varney or Lilnette Phillips. And thanks in advance for making a difference in the lives of young families.



Save the Date: June 1 to June 5, 2025

Make plans now to join us for "True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World,"
Calvary's VBS for the summer of 2025. At a time when it's all too easy to lose our way,
Jesus points us in the right direction! So be on the lookout for more information.
And if you'd like to know how you can help, contact Youth Pastor Alex Bracey.

Dear Calvary...

Thank you so much for the gift card recognizing my three years of service. I am very grateful for the love you have shown me!

Beth Church, Organist

We are so grateful at Gentry Middle School for your kind donation of feminine products. We have so many middle school girls that come to us asking for pads throughout the year. Much appreciated!

Celeste Hawks, Clothing Closet and Food Bank Coordinator The Calvary Church Family would like to thank all those who gave special gifts last month in honor and in memory of those they love:

- The Ruth Sunday School Class gave in honor of Jan Varney
- Claudia Bryant gave in memory of Ray Mills (brother of Faye Haas)
- Jerry & Sandi Nowlin gave in memory of Rachel Nowlin
- Dwayne & Karen Carter gave in memory of Howard Shelton, Norris Jarrell, and Mary Jo Roberts

