



Calvary Herald

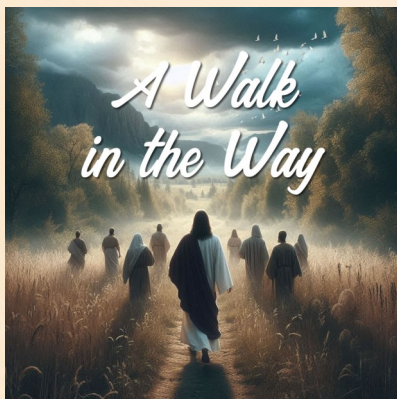
AUGUST 2024 — VOLUME 55 — ISSUE 8

Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You

Do you walk much? For better or worse, life tends to be more “spread out” than it used to be. And so, rather than walking to work, to church, and to the store, we tend to hop in our cars. And yet, it would be hard to avoid walking entirely. And frankly, many of us don’t want to avoid it! We walk for exercise. We walk to spend time with friends. We walk to clear our heads. And sometimes, we even walk to pray.

Of course, if you stop and think about it, isn’t walking woven into the fabric of our faith? The Bible tells us “to walk in a manner worthy of our calling” (Ephesians 4:1). We encourage each other not just to “talk the talk” but to “walk the walk.” And right at the center of what it means to be a Christian, we find a Savior who said, “Follow me.”

That’s why, as we “wrap up” summer and head toward the Labor Day weekend, I want us to think about walking (both physical and spiritual) in a series of messages that I’ll be calling, “A Walk in The Way.” Inspired by a book titled, *God Walk: Moving at the Speed of Your Soul* by Pastor Mark Buchanan, we’ll consider what walking can teach us about entering more fully into life in Christ. And hopefully, we’ll create opportunities to do some walking—both individually and together—so that we can apply what we learn by exercising not only our minds, but our hearts and lives as well.



I hope you can journey with us as we worship (and walk) in The Way together!

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Pastor Alex



FRANKLIN BACKPACK PROGRAM

Hunger doesn't take
the weekend off.

Last year, members of Calvary Baptist purchased and packed over 3000 bags of food, which were delivered each week to 90-plus students at Franklin Elementary School, helping to ensure they did not go hungry on weekends. If you’d like to be part of this ministry in the upcoming school year by shopping and/or packing food, we’re currently seeking volunteers! Willing helpers will be needed every month from August through May.

To learn more or to sign-up, please contact Becky Critz (336/341-8249 or bcritz1129@gmail.com). And be on the lookout for our annual fund-drive for the backpack ministry, which will be taking place next month!

Are You Ready to “Go Tell”?

In a little more than one month, churches across our region will join together in one of the most significant efforts to share the good news with our community that’s been attempted in many years. The **Blue Ridge Go Tell Crusade** will take place from September 8 to 11, with worship, preaching, and outreach taking place each evening at Veterans Park. *And we want you to be involved!*

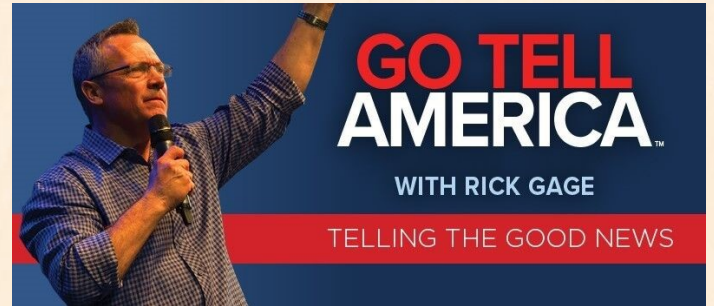
Thankfully, members of our church have been part of the planning process since the vision for this event was first shared with our community. But now that the crusade itself is drawing near, there are lots of ways that you can participate to help make sure that it bears fruit.

First and foremost, we urge you to pray. In your personal prayers, we encourage you to use the weekly “Crusade Prayer Emphasis” that you can find in our congregation’s Sunday worship bulletin. But we also encourage you to remember the crusade in the prayers of your Sunday School classes and Bible study groups. And if you’d like to participate in the ongoing, community-wide prayer effort, you can attend the weekly crusade prayer meeting that’s taking place at Antioch Baptist Church on Thursday nights at 6:30.

Next, we invite you to give. Our church family has already used some of the mission funds for this year to support the crusade effort. But each of us is likely to feel more personally invested if we “put our money where our mouth is.” We are receiving a love offering for the crusade during the first two weeks of this month. So please designate your physical offering to “Crusade,” or select the “Go Tell Love Offering” for your online gift.

Finally, we encourage you to be involved in some of the “hands on” work, which will be taking place this month to get ready for big event. For example, a training event for those who’d like to provide counseling for people who make decisions during the crusade will take place here at Calvary on Saturday, August 10, from 10 o’clock until Noon. Then, on Saturday Mornings August 17, 24, and 31; volunteers will be distributing Crusade invitations to households throughout Mount Airy. On Saturday mornings August 24 and 31; there will be prayer walks on the Greenway, Downtown, and at Veterans Park. And on Saturday, September 7, a small army of volunteers will be needed to help with set up at Veterans Park.

More details about all of these opportunities will appear in the bulletin as we get closer to the crusade. So please pay attention, pray, give, and get involved! Together, we can help people who don’t know Jesus to discover the love that can give them hope and set them free.



The Budget Is Coming!

Calvary’s Finance Committee will soon begin developing our church budget for 2025. To aid in this process, all committees and ministry teams are asked to submit their budget requests no later than Sunday, August 25. Leaders can obtain budget worksheets by contacting any member of the Finance Team: Lilnette Phillips, Steve Simandle, Charlotte Hudson, Clay Nowlin, Claire Montgomery, and Jan Varney.



BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Join us on Sunday, August 4 as we start the new school year with prayer for our local schools; their teachers, staff, and administrators; and our students!

(Students bring your backpacks for a special gift!)





Dear Calvary Family,

Thank you for the sweet birthday gift. My mother came to visit this week, and I took her out for lunch at Chick-fil-A. We loved it! Thank you for thinking of me.

Love, Beth Church

Dear Calvary Baptist,

Yokefellow Ministry is so thankful for the food drive you had to collect peanut butter and crackers. Your church collected 250 pounds of food! We are so blessed to have your continued support. What you do helps us feed so many families who are facing food insecurity in our community. Thanks again for all you do!

Dixie Ratliff, Program Coordinator

Dear Calvary,

Thank you all so much for the meals you prepared for me and my family during the time around Randy's passing. It meant so much! It was all so delicious and was really needed, with all the visitors we had during that time. It gave me so much comfort, knowing that our church family was taking care of us during this difficult time. Thank you so much.

Love, Karen Beasley

Dear Calvary,

Thank you so much for the meal you provided after the death of my father Bill Smith. It means a lot to be able to enjoy fellowship with family during a time of loss. Dad always loved when you provided food for him. The meal was delicious and much appreciated.

Sylvia Gentry



The Calvary Church family offers special thanks to those who gave in memory and in honor of others:

- **In Memory of Randy Beasley:** Lillian Holder, Earl & Jan Varney.
- **In Memory of Bill Smith:** Earl & Jan Varney, Jim & Lilnette Phillips, David & Denise Stone, JoLynn Johnson, Vernell Goins, JoAnn Surratt, Lillian Holder, Johnny & Paulette Surratt, Owen & Sandra Stone, Claudia Bryant, Men's Sunday School.
- **In Memory of Norris Hodge:** Earl & Jan Varney, Jim & Lilnette Phillips, JoLynn Johnson, Co-E
- d 5 Sunday School, Vernell Goins, Gray & Mary Jane Shelton, JoAnn Surratt, Lillian Holder, Johnny & Paulette Surratt, Brenda Barfield, Owen & Sandra Stone, Claudia Bryant.
- **In Memory of Jeanette Bristol:** Vernell Goins, Lillian Holder, Claudia Bryant.
- **In Memory of Kay Rogers:** Vernell Goins, Claudia Bryant.
- **In Honor of Guy & Mary Sparger:** Earl & Jan

MIDWEEK MINISTRY KICKOFF COOKOUT!

Can you believe it!? Summer's almost over. "Back-to-School is coming. And on Wednesday, August 21, our church family will launch a new season of midweek ministries with a "Kickoff Cookout"! We want everyone to join us for some hamburgers, hot dogs, and fixin's (not to mention some special surprises for the kids) as we look ahead to new opportunities for growing in Christ together.

Of course, please remember that our midweek ministries aren't just for kids. And they're not **just** for Bible study either! Our goal each week is to create opportunities for members of our church family connect with God and with each other in a deeper way, so we all can experience more of the abundant life that Jesus has promised. With that goal in mind, our schedule will begin each Wednesday night at 5:45 in the fellowship hall. We want everyone to be with us so that we can spend some time praying for one another; after which, we'll break into different groups for fellowship and growth: Mission Friends for Pre-K children, Explorers for kids in grades 1 to 5, Youth for students in middle and high school, and two Bible studies for adults.

