



# Calvary *Herald*

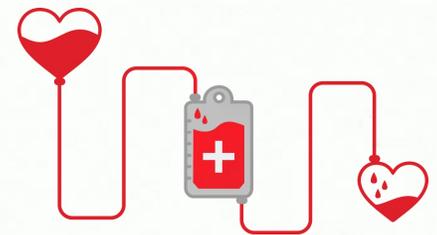
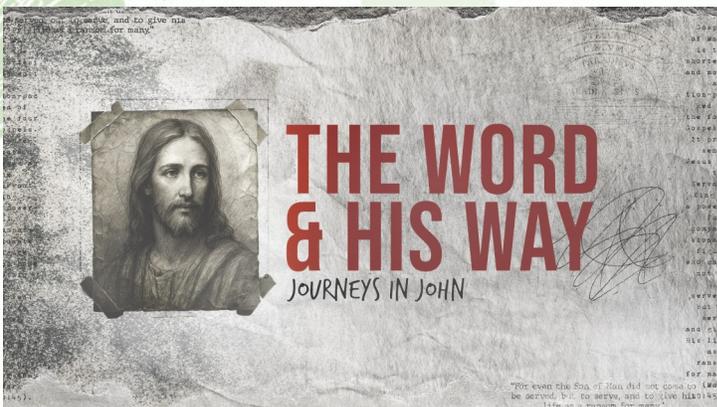
JANUARY 2026  
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## Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You!

In our recent celebration of Christmas, we've given thanks for the miracle of the Incarnation, which John's Gospel describes like this: "The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. And we have seen His glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth" (John 1:14, NIV). But the same Word who came to dwell among us also came to teach us, to demonstrate God's power to us, to die for us, and to rise again, so that we could be one with Him, just as He is one with the Father.

Therefore, as we continue our journey through the Big Story of the Bible, we'll be turning our attention in this new year to the life of life and ministry of the Word, as it's described in the Gospel of John. Beginning on Sunday, January 18, Pastor Alex will share a series of sermons called, "The Word and His Way: Journeys in John." Each week, we'll dig into one of the key stories of this most mystical of gospels, so that we can discover how Jesus changed the lives of almost everyone he met...and how he can change our lives, too.

So just as Jesus said to his earliest disciples, why don't you "Come and see" who Jesus is and how he wants to make a difference in your life, as you start the new year?



## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, January 4, 2026

11 am to 3:30 PM

Fellowship Hall of  
Calvary Baptist Church



To reserve a donation slot, visit  
[www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org)

For more information  
or to volunteer,  
contact Mary Jane Shelton  
(336/401-5849)



## Calling All Musicians!

Here at Calvary, we are blessed to have many musicians who provide leadership and add meaning to our times of worship. I am confident, however, that we have many more people who are involved in the life of our church and have musical gifts, but who have not had many opportunities to be involved in our music ministry.

That's why, in the coming year, I am hoping to involve lots of new musicians in worship! We're always on the lookout for those who like to sing. And I'd really like to include more instruments in worship. So, whether you play strings, brass, percussion, or even spoons—I'd love to put your talents to work. And if you play a little piano, our digital keyboard in the sanctuary offers a wealth of instrumental sounds that you could help us use to enhance our services!

Please contact me if you would like to know more!

Musically yours,

*Teresa*

Minister of Music (teresabmartin125@gmail.com)



A new season of Midweek Ministry will be kicking off on Wednesday, January 7, 2026! As always, we invite you to join us in the fellowship hall at 5:45 each Wednesday night, so that we can pray together for our church family and its ministries. And then, at about 6 o'clock, we'll break into small groups with growth opportunities for all ages.

Kids will have fun and study God's Word in Mission Friends (Pre-K and K), Explorers (Grades 1-5), and Youth (Middle School and High School). And for the adults, we'll be offering two new studies in this first session of the new year: A study of the life of Jesus based on season 5 of "The Chosen" (facilitated by Kim Morrison); and "Being the Beloved," a study of the Apostle John and how our faith journey could be transformed if we, too, saw ourselves as God's Beloved (facilitated by Reagan Tidd).

Why not begin this new year with us as we grow in our knowledge of the scriptures and build the relationships that will help all of us to grow in Christ?

## Thanks to Those Who Gave

The Calvary church family is so grateful for everyone who supports the ministries of our congregation with their tithes and offerings. But we'd like to share a special word of thanks for those who have made special contributions in memory and in honor of those they love.

- ***In Memory of Pauline Badgett:*** Dot Marion
- ***In Memory of Jeanette Bristol:*** Dot Marion
- ***In Memory of Kenneth Coe:*** Kenny & Amy Nowlin, Vernell Goins
- ***In Memory of Norman Hiatt:*** Donna Keck
- ***In Memory of Howard Hull:*** Donna & Roger Keck, Barbara & Kenneth Nowlin, Kenny & Amy Nowlin, Vernell Goins, Chadley & Janet Hull
- ***In Memory of Jamie McKinney:*** Jamie Draughn
- ***In Memory of Wayne McKinney:*** Kenneth & Barbara Nowlin, Kenny & Amy Nowlin
- ***In Memory of Jerry Nowlin:*** Kenny & Amy Nowlin
- ***In Memory of Mary Helen Smith:*** Vernell Goins, Jimmy & Sandra Byrd, Jim & Lilnette Phillips, Barbara Pearce, Izeta Winstead, Jerry & Susan Griffin, Donna Keck
- ***In Honor of David Stone, Mary Jo White, Carol Low, David McPeak:*** Pairs & Spares Sunday School Class
- ***In Honor of Mary Jane Shelton, Vernell Goins, Judy Stephenson, Mary Jo White, Betty Wagoner, Lillie Mae Haynes, Anita Greene:*** Claudia Bryant.



Looking for something fresh to reinvigorate your walk with Christ as you start the new year? Two of our adult Sunday School classes are kicking off new studies in January that might be just the thing!

- On Sunday, January 4, our Coed 1 Class (Room 117) will be starting a new unit of study based on Season 5 of The Chosen. For more info, please contact Kim Morrison (336/469-9435) or Benny Lisk (336/972-6288).
- On Sunday, January 18, the Narrow Gate Class (Room 121) will be starting "Overcomers," a study on the Book of Revelation, which reminds us how God has chosen us for His purposes and has promised us His power, regardless of the circumstances. For more info, please contact Becky Critz (336/341-8249)

# Dear Calvary...

Thank you for the many texts during my dad's illness and passing. The meal provided was so very thoughtful. Please continue to keep our family in your prayers.

Jeff and Beverly Hamilton

Thank you so much for your love during the homegoing of my husband Wayne. Thank you for the BBQ, apples, and beans. But most of all, thank each of you for your prayers. Please continue to pray for us. God is good, and He does no wrong. We know that we will see Wayne again when he calls us home.

Glenda McKinney (Beverly Hamilton's mother)

Thank you so much to Calvary, Mary Jo, and Mary Jane for bringing supper on the Monday after momma's passing. Thank you all for the thoughts, prayers, texts, and cards. We are so blessed to be part of the caring fellowship of believers.

Mitzi and Jimmy Poore

Words seem inadequate to express our appreciation for your support during the death of our father. The delicious food, your notes, visits, and especially your prayers have been so meaningful to us all. Thank you for standing with us and lifting us up during our grief. We have truly experienced God's love and blessings through you.

The Charles Hill Family

Thank you very much for the food, thoughts, prayers, and the crocheted blanket. The food is always wonderful, and the blanket lifts my spirits with its beautiful colors. I hope to be back in worship with you soon. Thank you again!

Loretta Flake

Thank you all so much for your love and kindness—and for the delicious food, cards, and prayers that have carried us through this difficult time.

Mary Jane, Gray, and the Kenneth Coe family

*The following note is from a recipient of the personal care items that were given by Calvary to the Surry County Detention Center as part of our "Servant Sunday" emphasis this fall.*

Hello! I am writing to express my gratitude for the Thanksgiving gift bag! I want to say thank you on behalf of the other indigent folks that received one as well. It is greatly appreciated, because small gestures like that make a world of difference. It gave me something to look forward to, and it was a reminder that good people still exist and that someone cares. Also, my bag said, "Jesus is with you" and was decorated with a smiley face and a heart that looked like they were written by a child. This warmed my heart, too, because it reminded me of my kids (and I love smiley faces and hearts)! So again, thank you so very much. And God bless you!

Michelle Searles

*The following note is from one of the ministry leaders in Western NC who helped distribute toboggans made by Calvary's knitting and crocheting group and bags of food filled with holiday essentials.*

Thank you all so much for these wonderful reflections of God's love. These items give us the wonderful opportunity of offering some abundance to our precious families. For so long, we have had to restrict how many items we could offer—even if we were serving a larger family. Now they can have enough to last a couple weeks, instead of having to come back every week just to get their basics. This will also help carry us into this first quarter of the new year when donations slow down and our shelves get very lean.

Please tell the "knitting ladies" how grateful the school will be when they come to pick all those lovely hand made hats and scarves. Too many children there have next to nothing for this cold weather. In fact, one of the young men who serves with us is an aide at another school close to us. He asked if he could he take a few hats to his school, because he knew so many there in need.

Again words simply can't explain the gratitude in my heart. I can't wait for the pantry to open so I can see the delight in people's faces as they leave with arms full of encouragement love, and some hope for a better holiday time.

THANK YOU ALL, over and over!

Saralyn Collins. First Baptist Church of Weaverville.

On behalf of the Calvary church staff, I'd like to thank all of you for the cards, treats, and Christmas bonuses that the church and its members provided for us this year! It is so kind of our church family to bless us with special gifts – not only during the holidays – but also on our birthdays and work anniversaries.

Please know that we consider it a privilege to serve the Lord with people who make our work such a pleasure. And please let us know how we can support and encourage you in your growth and ministry.

Pastor Alex and the Calvary Staff

On behalf of Franklin elementary school, thank you for the many ways you continue to support our students and staff! Your generosity, kindness, and willingness to serve make a meaningful difference in the lives of our students.

We're so grateful for your faithful support of the backpack program. Your commitment truly helps feed bodies and minds. Thank you, too, for the thoughtful treats and snacks you provided for our staff. It made everyone feel valued and supported.

Again, thank you for your partnership and the love you show to our school. We are blessed to have your church as a part of the bulldog family!

DeAnne Danley, Principal.

