



Calvary Herald

JUNE 2021—VOLUME 52—ISSUE 56

Let's Build a Great VBS!

The time for Vacation Bible School has finally arrived! **“Concrete & Cranes: Building on the Love of Jesus”** will take place June 13 to 16 and will run from 6 o'clock to 8:20 each evening. This year's theme verse is Philippians 1:6—“He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus,” and everyone who participates—children, youth, and adults—will learn more about how we can be “wise builders” who cooperate with God to construct lives that honor Him.

Activities begin each evening with a Snack Supper that will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 6 to 6:30. The Opening Assembly will run from 6:30 to 6:45, and it will be followed by Music, Bible Study, and Recreation for all our children and youth helpers. Adults are invited and encouraged to participate in the Snack Supper and Opening Assembly, but their schedule will start “officially” at 6:45 in the Chapel with some fellowship and refreshments, followed by a study of Nehemiah from 7 to 8. The evening concludes with a Closing Assembly at 8 o'clock.

After missing VBS last year because of the pandemic, we're looking forward to a being together and celebrating the work that God continues to do among us. To make our opening night a little easier, we encourage you to register in advance by visiting the church website (calvarymountairy.org) and clicking the registration link on the homepage. Please help us “spread the word” by inviting your family and friends. And if you're on Facebook, please like and share our VBS Facebook event.



VBS Schedule

6:00 to 6:30

Snack Supper

6:30 to 6:45

Opening Assembly

6:50 to 8:00

Bible Study, Music, and
Recreation

*(Adult Study of Nehemiah
in Chapel)*

8:00 to 8:20

Closing Assembly & Pick-Up

Youth Mission Supply Drive

Calvary's Youth will be "on mission" during the week of July 18 this summer, serving in the Appalachian region of Kentucky. The community in which they plan to minister is in need of certain supplies; and so, we're conducting a "Youth Mission Supply Drive" during the month of June to collect the necessary items, which are listed below.

Please bring your donations to the church before Sunday, June 27, and place them in the chapel, the church office, or the collection bins near our primary entrances.

- Dawn Dishwashing Detergent
- Lysol Spray Disinfectant
- Clorox Bathroom Cleaner
- Sanitizing Wipes
- Brooms and Dustpans
- Trash Bags (Kitchen Size and/or 55 Gallon)
- 8 oz. Hand Sanitizers
- School Supplies
 - No. 2 Pencils
 - Crayons
 - Markers
 - Spiral Notebooks
 - Book Bags

If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Alex Bracey. And please begin to pray now for our team's safety, for their growth in Christ, and for the ability of their ministry to demonstrate the love of God.



COVID, a Congregation, and the Mind of Christ

The recent weeks here at Calvary have been so encouraging. After a long year of online services, social distancing, and mask wearing, we're finally starting to "get back to normal." People are returning to worship, and Sunday School classes are back in session. Children are being dedicated, and guests are visiting. Masks are coming off, and handshakes are being given. All of us, I think, are eager to put the pandemic behind us and get on with the fellowship, growth, and ministry to which God has called us.

Of course, things aren't quite "back to normal" yet! There are still a few concerns about the vulnerability of children and unvaccinated adults. And we're still waiting for good guidance on when we can return to congregational singing. And as we wait and work through those issues, we want to do everything in our power to trust God, to have the fullest church experience possible, *and* to do this without putting anyone at risk unnecessarily.

So, as your pastor, here's what I ask. First, please be patient. Our deacons will make decisions about what works best for our church based on good information and their prayerful discernment of God's will. Let's trust them to do what's right and not rush ahead of them based on our personal preferences or on what we see happening elsewhere. Second, please pray. The deacons and I need God's wisdom on this, and He promises to provide it to those who ask. Third, please get vaccinated. Now clearly, if your doctor says you have risk factors that make that unwise, you need to take that seriously. But while I'm no expert, I believe the vaccine is safe and that it's neither "the mark of the beast" nor a government tracking tool. And the more we get people protected, the more easily we can get back to normal. And finally, in all of this let's have "the mind of Christ" by "valuing others above ourselves and not looking to our own interests but also to the interests of others" (Phil. 2:3-5). God *has done* and *will do* great things here at Calvary, and I can't wait to see what He has in store!

Pastor Alex

Dear Calvary...

Thank you very much for donating the water. Our clients and volunteers really appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Dixie Ratliff/Mike Gatchel
Yokefellow Ministry

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Thank you so much for the food, visits, cards and kind words in the death of my sister, Libby. You are all appreciated more than you know.

Love to you all,  
Andra Montgomery and  
Libby's children, Wendy and Jerry

## Gifts and Memorials

In Memory of Earlie and Lois Jarrell by

Roger and Carol Jarrell

In Memory of Zeo Stone by

Charles and Sandra Paul

## Your Gifts at Work

Our church family is constantly involved in ministries that bless individuals in our church and in our community. Just in the month of May, for example, your faithful support has enabled us to do the following:

- A delicious lunch was delivered to 46 of our homebound members.
- 20 electric fans were purchased and delivered to Yokefellow, the Salvation Army, and the Mount Airy Police Department so they can be distributed to those in need during times of dangerous summer heat.
- Teachers and staff at Franklin Elementary School were treated to an "End of Year Celebration" that featured food from Chili's.

Thank you for all the ways that make it possible for us to be a blessing! If you, your family, or your small group undertake projects of your own, we'd love to know about them so that we can encourage others. And if you have ideas for projects, please contact the pastor or a member of our missions team.

## Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You...

We know that God is constantly at work in us and in the world, but appearances can be deceiving. Apparently powerful and impressive "movements of God" can turn out to be more "world-inspired" bluster than "Spirit-inspired" growth, while seemingly insignificant decisions and actions can turn out to be the seeds of God's kingdom. But how can we know which is which?

That's what we'll be considering in our pastor's June message series: "Surprise! Embracing God's Unexpected Way." By looking at passages from Paul's second letter to the church in Corinth, we'll see how followers of Jesus are called to look deeply at how, when, and where God is at work—sometimes in ways that we wouldn't have expected. Join us for worship at 8:30 (Contemporary) or 10:55 (Traditional) each Sunday morning.



# SURPRISE!

—EMBRACING GOD'S UNEXPECTED WAY—

