



Calvary *Herald*

NOVEMBER 2024 — VOLUME 55 — ISSUE 11

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

Please join us for the Calvary Thanksgiving Dinner, beginning at 6 o’clock in the evening on Wednesday, November 20. We want to kick off the holiday season with a grateful celebration of God’s gifts, and our fellowship won’t be complete unless you’re part of it! We will be seeking volunteers who can help prepare the meal, deliver plates to homebound members, or prepare homemade desserts for everyone to share. If you’d like to serve in one of these ways, please contact Mary Jane Shelton (336-401-5849).



This Month: Portraits of the Prophets

Of the 39 books in the Old Testament, 17 form the body of literature that Jesus called “The Prophets.” Some of these figures—like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel—are well-known to us and are often called “The Major Prophets; while others—like Obadiah, Zephaniah, and Nahum—are called “The Minor Prophets.” But this distinction has less to do with what these prophets said and more to do with how much they wrote. Because all these messengers delivered the words of warning, comfort, and hope that God’s people needed to hear. And if we pay attention, we often find that we need to hear those words, too.

That’s why Pastor Alex’s sermons in November will be drawn from the prophets and will focus on the theme, “God Says.” As we continue our journey through “The Big Story” of the Bible, what are the words that God wants to speak to us? And how can those words equip us to see God more clearly, love Him more dearly, and follow Him more nearly? We hope you can worship with us as we seek to find out.



Calvary Welcomes...

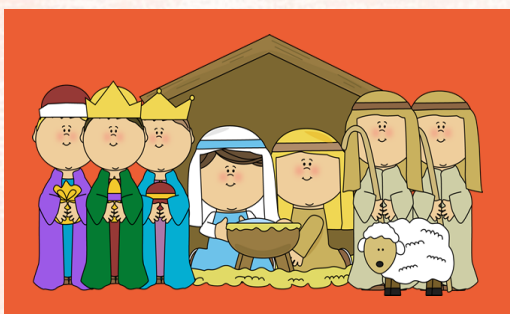
On Sunday, November 24, the Calvary church family will welcome two special guests! Meredith and Besweri Walujjo serve God in the African nation of Uganda through a ministry called “International Messengers.” But as some of you know, they are also the daughter and son-in-law of our own Jimmy and Sandra Byrd! On the day of their visit, Meredith and Besweri will be sharing a brief word of greeting in both of our worship services. But for those who would like to learn more about their ministry, they will also share a brief presentation and “Q and A” session during the Sunday School hour in the fellowship hall.

While fundraising is not the purpose of their visit, Meredith and Besweri are raising support for their work in Uganda. If you’d like to make a contribution, you can access their ministry’s giving portal by visiting <https://give.im-usa.org/walujjo>.



Children’s Christmas Program

As we prepare our hearts for the Christmas season, we welcome all kids up through 5th grade to participate in the “Calvary Kids” Christmas program for 2024.. This year's program will feature the classic nativity story, as well as some of your favorite Christmas carols. The kids will share their presentation on the evening of Wednesday, December 18th. If you would like your child to participate, please reach out to Melissa Bracey, Melissa Sumner, or Meredith Simmons no later than November 6th.



Celebrate the Savior with Our Silver Circle

Would you like to bless our church family’s “Silver Circle” members this Christmas? Why not send them a card using our Christmas Post Office? The Christmas Post Office, which is intended to serve our homebound members only, will “open for business” on Sunday, November 17. And to make sure that we have time to make the necessary deliveries, it will “close for the holidays” on Thursday, December 19. To use the service, just prepare your cards and write the name of the recipient on each envelope. Drop the envelopes in one of the boxes that will be available in the church office and in the hallway between the sanctuary and the educational building. Then we’ll take care of the rest—no postage required! Thanks for helping us share the joy of the season with these special members of the Calvary family!



Let’s Do Some Business!

Calvary’s Fall Business Meeting will be held in the Chapel on Sunday, November 17, at 6 o’clock in the evening. This is the meeting at which the Nominating Committee and the Finance Committee present leadership and budget recommendations for the coming year. So, we would like everyone to be involved in helping us “chart a course” for Calvary to do fruitful and faithful ministry in 2025. Please mark your calendar and make plans to join us!



Dear Calvary...

Thank you for all the prayers, sympathy cards, gift card, phone calls, flowers, food, messages and most of all the love you have shown during this most difficult time of the loss of our precious daughter Shelly. This has meant so much to us and gave us the support and comfort we need. We are still struggling with the emotional roller coaster, the unanswered questions of why and what is next. Shelly set the example of a faithful Christian life and we know where she is at, so that gives us peace in knowing she is okay. But without God's love and the support we have had, I don't know how we would've gotten through this. So keep being the wonderful church family you are, and don't think that your prayers, calls, and cards aren't helpful.

*We love you for all you've done to support us,
Roger and Carol Jarrell, Kelly Jarrell Mabe*

Thank you for all your calls and texts, cards, visits, and food over the past few weeks. I appreciate your prayers and encouragement after surgery. You are greatly appreciated and mean so much to me.

JoLynn Johnson

Words cannot even begin to cover how much the acts of kindness Calvary has shown to us during the time Spencer was in the hospital. We really appreciate all of you who called, texted, sent cards, made donations, and gave gas gift cards. It is such a blessing to have such wonderful, caring friends when you are passing through some of life's storms.

Love, Debbie Howlett



On behalf of the staff at 12 Oaks I'd like to say a huge THANK YOU for all the kindness and generosity shown to our residents and staff members during a great time of need. You all provided for so many urgent appeals for food, clothes and serving assistance without hesitation and gave love and assistance to forty-five displaced residents from western NC. You are such a blessing to all of us and we sincerely thank you. May God continue to bless your lives and your church with abundant measure.

Noemi (Nutrition Director)

I cannot thank you enough for all the calls, emails, cards, gifts, and love shown for me on my birthday! You are an amazing church family, and I am so glad God blessed me with all of you to work with. Thank you all again from the bottom of my heart; you really helped make my birthday EXTRA special.

Your friend, Hannah (in the office ☺)

Thank you for taking care of the needs of so many Ashe County families. The cash and gift cards will go far, stretching the arms of Jesus.

Pastor David (Ashe Baptist Association)

In Memory and In Honor

Calvary wishes to thank all those who gave gifts this month in memory and in honor of special people:

- **In Memory of Mary Jo Roberts:** Ladies 5 Sunday School Class, Jill Shelton, Mary Jo White
- **In Memory of Howard Shelton:** Jill Shelton, Roger & Carol Jarrell, Mary Jo White
- **In Memory of Shelly Rector:** Roger and Donna Keck
- **In Memory of M. C. and Eva Marsh:** Roger and Carol Jarrell
- **In Memory of Kenny Hicks:** Mary Jo White



If you signed up to sponsor a child through this year's "Angel Tree" ministry, we anticipate that the information for your child (age, clothing sizes, gift requests) will be available sometime during the first two weeks of November. We will publicize the date by which completed gift bags will be due back at church, but we anticipate that it will be toward the end of the month, or in early December. If you have questions, please contact Jan Varney.