



Calvary Herald

OCTOBER 2024 — VOLUME 55 — ISSUE 10

Coming Soon to a Pulpit Near You

Can you remember times when you've poured out your heart to God in prayer? What were you praying for? How confident did you feel that God would respond? How did God answer your prayer? And was His answer exactly what you were hoping for, or different from what you expected?

Let's face it: Because we pray to a powerful and gracious God who's far wiser than we are, prayer will always remain a bit of a mystery. Sometimes, God gives us "the desires of our hearts," but other times, God answers "No," or "Not yet." Still other times, God responds in ways that are different than or far more far-reaching than we ever could have anticipated. But in all cases, the scriptures assure us that God "is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine" (Eph. 3:20) — especially when we consider God how uses our prayers to contribute to the "Big Story" that He's writing in us and in the world.

During the month of October, Pastor Alex would like us to consider this interplay of prayer and God's Big Story through a series of messages titled, "Immeasurably More." We'll examine a few bold prayers that were offered by

some heroes of the Old Testament, and we'll discover how God answered those prayers (*and is still answering those prayers*) in ways that went far beyond what anyone could have anticipated. We hope you can join us. And as always, feel free to invite a friend!



From 6 to 7 pm on Wednesday, October 30, Calvary's midweek ministry will feature a "Trunk-or-Treat" event for kids in our church and community. We encourage kids (and parents!) to wear their costumes and join us for an evening of fellowship, fun and candy!

If you would like to help make the evening a success by "hosting a trunk" or by providing candy that others can distribute, please contact our minister to youth and children, Alex Bracey.

- 336/712-5245
- aebracey1@gmail.com

New Homeless Ministry Coming This Winter

Some of you may remember “Room at the Inn”—a ministry that provided overnight shelter for Mount Airy’s homeless population during the coldest nights of the winter. This effort was coordinated through First Presbyterian Church with the help of several local congregations (including Calvary). But the pandemic put an end to that ministry, and staffing changes at First Presbyterian have prevented it from relaunching. The need for temporary shelter amid winter’s extremes still exists, however. And that’s why a new effort is being made by Trinity Episcopal Church and an assortment of other local ministries to try something new.

“The Warming Station” will provide overnight shelter for up to 10 people, beginning on November 1, 2024 and running through February 28, 2025. It will be housed in the fellowship hall at Trinity Episcopal and will only be open on nights that the temperature is slated to drop below 32 degrees. When it is in operation, the shelter will be open from 8 pm to 7 am. And because it’s being operated with the support of local law enforcement and EMS officials, it will be resourced in a manner that ensures the safety of clients and volunteers alike.

For the ministry to be effective, a wide range of volunteers will be needed. For each evening the shelter is open, we will be seeking volunteers who can 1) assist with check-in; 2) provide a simple evening meal; 3) spend the night at the shelter to supervise clients; or 4) come early in the morning to assist with check-out and clean-up. Donations will also be needed to provide McDonalds gift cards for clients, so they can get some breakfast in the morning. If you or your Sunday School class would like to know more about participating, please contact Pastor Alex.

Thanks for Giving the Gift of Life

We’re happy to report that last month’s blood drive in memory of Brent Hull collected 43 units of blood. That’s an outstanding result, and we’d like to thank everyone who participated.



Vote This Month on Deacons

Last month, members of our church family had the opportunity to nominate men and women to serve a 3-year term as Deacons. Based on the number of nominations received and the willingness of those persons to serve, the individuals who are being put forward for this ministry, are: Sam Critz, Benny Lisk, Lee Mills, Bob McPherson, and Kent Moser.

A ballot vote on this slate of potential deacons will be conducted during worship on Sunday, October 13. Please consider prayerfully whether you will “affirm” or “not affirm” each nominee.



Blessing Others This October

Because our church family has responded so enthusiastically to the many mission projects we’ve embraced in recent months, we’re giving everyone a break in October, so that we’ll be ready for the new opportunities that will be available during the upcoming holiday season. And yet, although we’re not promoting any particular projects, you’re still “being a blessing” through two efforts that are being funded through our mission budget. First, our church will be delivering “blessing bags” to the staff members at several local nursing homes. And second, we’ll be delivering a meal to our “Silver Circle” or homebound members. If you’d like to be involved in either of these projects in a “hands on” way, we’d love to have you! Just contact Jan Varney for more details.



Have You Met...?

Have you met Michael and Flora Havet? Michael, Flora and their daughter Joanna have been getting connected with our church family in recent months; and along with being newcomers at Calvary, they're also newcomers to the local business community. The Havets are the owners/operators of "Havet Engraved," a shop located at 111 W Main Street in Pilot Mountain that specializes in custom plaques, jewelry, and home décor. If you're in the market for such items, please be sure to contact them.

Lights, Camera...Christmas!

This year's Christmas cantata here at Calvary will include a series of short dramatic vignettes that were written by our own David Stone. Our new drama ministry, "Acting Up in Church," will be performing most of those vignettes. However, we need more actors to cover all the parts! If you'd be interested in learning a small part to help us with this year's cantata, we would love to get you involved. Please contact Tom Beckom (336/466-3869 or tbeckomrt@gmail.com) to sign up or to get more information!

Midweek Ministry Session 2

The second session of our Midweek Ministry for this fall will begin on Wednesday, October 16. Adults will have two study options: "The Best Things I Ever Learned," which will be led by Jon Cawley and based on a book that he's been working on; and "The Sermon on the Mount," which will be led by Pastor Alex and will continue his study from our first Midweek session.

Angel Tree 2024

Sometime early next month, we'll be receiving from Franklin Elementary School the names and "wish lists" of children that we'll seek to bless through this year's Angel Tree ministry. As some of you know, the time between receiving those names and delivering gifts is often somewhat limited. And so, if you, your family, or your Sunday School class would like to "get a jump" on the process, please contact Jan Varney (336/ 401-5640 or jvarney.jv@gmail.com) to let her know how many children you'd like to serve.

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 Howard Shelton:** Guy & Mary Sparger, David & Denise Stone, Brenda Barfield, Lee & Judy Mills, Ken & Barbara Nowlin, Pat Smith, Jim & Sandra Byrd, Bob & Janet McPherson, Jim & Lilnette Phillips, Ladies' Golden Circle Sunday School Class
- **In Memory of Mary Jo Roberts:** Cathy Stevens, Vernell Goins, JoAnn Surratt, JoLynn Johnson, Lillian Holder
- **In Memory of Sherry Rector:** Jim & Lilnette Phillips

THANK YOU!
So much

Dear Calvary...

Thank you so much for your calls, cards, and prayers for our family after Junior's (my husband's) passing. I am so thankful for wonderful people like you all.

Anne Forrest

Thank you for all the many ways you showed your love for us during the time that Norris was at Skilled Care and in the days after his passing. The prayers, phone calls, cards, and visits meant so much. If you attended the graveside service or fixed food for the delicious meal after the service – thank you.

Margaret Smith and the Norris Jarrell Family

We are writing today with a heartfelt thank you for providing our pre-K students with new cot sheets to use in our classrooms. Thank you for thinking of us and for expressing your desire to look out for the needs of our youngest learners and their teachers. We greatly appreciate it! The majority of our pre-K students come from a background where materials are not always plentiful, and we are grateful for your help with providing items that will support them in preparation for kindergarten and beyond.

Your kindness has not gone unnoticed. Thank you for the important work you do!

Kathy Mauzy, Pre-K Coordinator and the students and teachers of SCS Pre-K