



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Calvary Church family,

There is eternal significance to the work we do on this side of Heaven. Paul tells us in Colossians that we work for the Lord, not for man. We work not for recognition, money, or validation, but out of obedience to the Father. We work because of the eternal impact that our actions have. Each person we meet has eternal weight, and each word we speak to them has an eternal effect. When we care for the widow, weep with the weeping, and exhort those in our churches, we are involved in a ripple-effect through the ages of eternity. We dedicate ourselves to God when we care for the people He's entrusted us with. This is work that is lasting and good.

Now we who are strong have an obligation to hear the weakness of those without strength, and not to please ourselves. Each one of us is to please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. For even Christ did not please himself. Romans 15:1-3

At times we feel far from strong.

Oftentimes that struggle is rooted in our own pride and selfishness. It is our duty to care for those in the church. Sometimes we are not always successful as God requires. But each of us has an obligation placed on our lives to bear the burdens that stiffen the necks of our fellow brothers and sisters. It may not give us salary to discipline a young Christian in our local body of believers, and we may not receive validation when we forsake a Saturday morning to sit with a lonesome saint for breakfast. Our service may not always be recognized but it is worth it, and very much needed.

We look to Christ Himself when we need to garner the necessary strength to serve those around us. Jesus spent His ministry being mocked but still serving. Tired, but still working. Crucified, but still loving those who put Him on the cross. There's no way we can adequately care for those around us in our own strength. We do it from the strength of Jesus Christ.

1 Corinthians 10:31 admonishes us to do everything for the Glory of God. Whether we're eating or drinking, we should be glorifying God in our actions. Whether we, or those around us, deem our work as mundane, whether if something that is second nature, whether it is something that is challenging to us – all of it can be used to point the gazes of those around us to Jesus Christ. Our validation doesn't come from anything that this earth offers us, the only "well done" worth hearing is from the Lord.

In Christ, Pastor Bruce



Upcoming Events for the Men's Ministry:

Aug. 4: We will have the pleasure of serving a meal to the residents at the Hesed House in Lincolnton.

Sept. 6: Men's Shoot-Out. More information to come.

Sept. 18 – 21: Men's Retreat

Oct. 4: The Men of Calvary will host an appreciation luncheon for all pastors within our association to say "thank you" for all they do.

Make sure to invite and bring someone to our men's monthly meeting, as we continue to go through the book of Proverbs. I look forward to seeing you all as the Lord wills.

Thank you and may God bless each of you, Doug Bivens



AUGUST is our month to collect food for Christian Ministry of Lincoln County. You can place all donations in the gray tote, located in the fellowship building, near the Backpack table.



EMERSON RAE SAIN

arrived on Saturday, July 5
at 2:39 PM.

She weighed 7lbs 3oz, and was
20" long.

Congratulations to her mom, Leah!



This year, our theme for Youth Camp was "In His Name," where we explored a few of the Names of God.

These Names help us to better understand Who He is, and in doing so, we also come to better understand who we are. One of the names we focused on was **God Our Comforter**.

Before leaving His disciples, Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit – God Who dwells in His children – to be our Comforter. This is especially important because of all that we face in the world. Topics such as mental and emotional resilience were discussed alongside this truth of God as our Comforter.

Our emotions can weigh heavily on us, and if left unchecked, they can begin to control us. But thanks to God's empowering Spirit, we do not have to fall victim to our emotions. The Holy Spirit comforts us in trying times and helps guide us back to the truth.

Our emotions can deceive us, but the Spirit is the Spirit of Truth and will only speak what He has received from the Father (John 15:13-14). With this promise, we can face each day – and the trials it brings – knowing we are not left defenseless.

I pray that you know the God who comforts, and that you will be encouraged to confide in Him and follow His lead through life's trials.

God has not promised that a life surrendered to Him will be easy, but He has promised that it will be one lived with Him. That is a promise not only for eternity, but for the here and now, as well.

Sincerely, Chris Zinicola

Cell: 910-934-2249

Email: chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com

Upcoming Youth Events:

DV8 Lock-In
August 8 - 9

Looking Ahead...

Mark your calendar

HOMECOMING CELEBRATION

Saturday, September 27

~ Time Capsule Reveal ~

~ Meal ~

Sunday, September 28

~Special Guest~

Brandon Blair

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

Needs & News

Pantry Needs: mayo, ketchup, bowls

Food Boxes (these are given out to anyone that stops by the ministry needing assistance: rice, detergent, pop-top cans

Bibles are needed to give out, as well

~ Men's Shoes, sizes 12 & 13 are the most needed right now
~ Drivers for LINC Meals are desperately needed.

~ Volunteers are also desperately needed for the Clothes Closet.

If you can help with any of these needs, please contact Christian Ministry, or Shannon Wingate will be happy to answer any questions you may have.



Sunday, August 10



COMMUNION

Sunday, August 17



"With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth comes praises and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be." James 3:9-10

Recently in Sunday School, our class has been studying James. Boy have my toes been black and blue. The Holy Spirit has quickened my spirit repeatedly, showing me areas in which I need to grow in His righteousness. While I don't necessarily "curse" other human beings, I have, at times, said things that were not edifying or building up. Often, it is people I don't know and/or maybe even those less fortunate than myself. God reminded me once again, not only were they made in His likeness, they were also ones for which Jesus died on the cross. I praise my Heavenly Father for loving me enough to show me areas in which I need growth.

Women of Calvary is gearing up for quite a few exciting upcoming months. We have the following events coming up:

August 3 @4:30 – meeting for those going on the Beach Retreat to concrete plans.

August 3 @5:00 – Women of Calvary Meeting in the fellowship hall. Please bring one or more of the following items to help with the Christian Ministry School Supply Drive (which is our mission for

August): notebook paper, composition notebooks (no spiral-bound), two-pocket folders, one-, two-, or three-inch binders, and bookbags for middle or high school students.

August 23 – Day Trip. We will leave the church at 9:00 AM and return at 5:00 PM. Location to be decided at the meeting on August 3.

September 4 – 7 Beach Retreat to North Myrtle Beach. Final payment is due on August 3.

September 14 @5:00 – Women

of Calvary Meeting in the fellowship hall. Please bring items for the Backpack Ministry (please see Sabrina Brooks for suggestions) as this is our ministry for September.

October 5 @4:30 – Women of Calvary and Men's Ministry groups will meet in the fellowship hall for a time of snacks and fellowship. Please bring a goodie to share.

October 5 @5:00 – Women of Calvary meeting in the fellowship hall. Ministry for October to be decided at the September meeting.

October 11 – Women of Calvary Breakfast or Craft Day – TBD at the meeting on September 14.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions 704-530-3322

In His Love, Robin Sams



Greeters for AUGUST

- 3- Pat Rudisill & Debbie Sherrill
- 10- Tim & Christine Mosteller
- 17- Frank & Gail McSwain
- 24- Bud & Shirley Dellinger
- 31- Don & Sandy Jennings



BACKPACK MINISTRY NEEDS

spaghetti o's, ravioli, vienna sausages, soup (chicken noodle or tomato is preferred), beanie weenies, chicken or beef ramen noodles, applesauce, mac & cheese cups, mashed potato cups, fruit cups, cereal, pop-tarts, instant grits, instant oatmeal, cheese crackers, juice boxes or juice pouches, Little Debbie-type snack cakes, cookies



The Pastor, Staff, and Congregation would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Terri Hester in the loss of her mom, Thomasina Willis Hutto.

Children's Workers for AUGUST

NURSERY 10:30 AM

Aug 3 Linda Rickman
Aug 10 Tracie Kline
Aug 17 Shannon Wingate
Aug 24 Catherine Cox
Aug 31 Gail Sellers

CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:30 AM

Aug 3 Samantha Zinicola
Aug 10 Kathy Bivens
Aug 17 Kim Jackson
Aug 24 Samantha Zinicola
Aug 31 Samantha Zinicola

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 7:00 PM

Nursery & Preschool
Aug 6 Susie Mull
Aug 13 Pat Lowman
Aug 20 Sandra Jennings
Aug 27 Teresa Hill

SUNSHINE CLUB
Monday, August 25
@11:00 AM

Deacon of the Month TRACY MORRISON

A Look at Our Records

Tithes & Offerings

These figures reflect our General Fund amounts

July 6.....	\$7,340.58
July 13.....	\$6,616.24
July 20.....	\$6,534.24
July 27.....	\$5,937.24

Pastor Bruce Brooks,
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email: brooks0969@gmail.com

Chris Zinicola

cell, 910-934-2249

email:

chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com

Sunday School Report

July 6.....	81
July 13.....	86
July 20.....	72
July 27.....	80

STAFF DIRECTORY

Bruce Brooks.....Lead Pastor
Chris Zinicola.....Youth Pastor
Jerry Saine.....Worship Leader
Leann Osborne.....Administrative Sec.
Kim Bost.....HR/Financial Secretary
Samantha ZinicolaFacilities Manager

~ CHURCH OFFICE HOURS ~

Monday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday

9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Phone: 735-9976 FAX: 736-9985

Email address: calvbc@bellsouth.net

A stylized word "prayer" in lowercase letters, where each letter has a different color gradient: "p" is orange, "r" is yellow, "a" is green, "y" is blue, and "e" is purple. The letters are slightly overlapping.

If you would like to join us for prayer, we meet in the sanctuary on Sunday mornings at 8:30 am. Everyone is welcome!

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THE MESSENGER

THE MESSENGER

“In that day shall messengers go forth...” Ezekiel 30:9

AUGUST 2025



But if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve...

But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.