



## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Calvary Church family,

It's the season to bear fruit. Are you producing? How can a Christian bear fruit? "Bearing fruit" is a phrase used to describe the outward actions that result from the inward condition of a person's heart. Galatians 5:16-24 contrasts the work, of the flesh with those of the Holy Spirit. In our sinful nature, we bear things such as idolatry, jealousy, dissension, and fits of anger. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control..." As Christians, we want to bear fruit in keeping with our relationship with God. We seek to do things outwardly that demonstrate that we have been made new in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17). What is the key to bearing Godly fruit? Jesus summarized the answer to this question in John 15:4-5: "Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him will bear much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." Bearing fruit in the Christian life requires abiding in Jesus. When we are connected and intentional about our relationship with God, we produce the fruit God cultivates within us. It is God who does the work in us; our fruit-bearing is simply a result of what He does. Jesus said, "You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide..." (John 15:16). Ephesians 2:8-10 has a similar message. 2 Corinthians 3:18 talks about us being transformed into the image of Christ. As the Holy Spirit sanctifies us, we become more Christ-like; we bear fruit. How do we build our relationship with God? We do things like spend time in the Word of God (the bible); praying, worshipping God alone and with others; fast; and giving our time, treasures, and talents. These are some of the things we do. Some of the things we do not do, as to avoid poisoning the relationship from our end, include avoiding the lusts of the flesh described in Galatians 5:19-21. In short, we actively pursue God and flee from that which is sinful. To be sure, our focus as Christians is not the fruit we produce, but the connection we have with God. When we focus on our outward Christian life, we can become wrapped up in pretense. It is all too easy to live a Christian routine apart from any genuine connection to God. We can fall into the trap of putting on a

holy face without experiencing real heart transformation. In that case, the fruit we bear is our own not that of the Holy Spirit, and our hearts are lacking Christ's love. Bearing fruit in the Christian life is not about doing works or attempting righteousness in our own strength. Rather, it is about intentionally growing in our walk with Christ, inviting the Holy Spirit's work of transformation in us, and actively obeying God in all He calls us to do. As we seek Him and lay down our own fleshly desires for His better ways, we will bear lasting fruit and serve as salt and light to a world in need of Jesus (Matthew 5:13-16).

*In Christ, Pastor Bruce*



Men of Calvary, I want to say Thank You to all of you who are always there when needed. To each of you who do things that need to be done, simply because you see they need to be done. When a need arises, you are there. When prayer is needed, you pray. So many of you ready with a kind word, a handshake and a simple "I am praying for you". You may never know how life-changing that is to someone until you see them in glory.

Upcoming: Life has had me extremely busy over the past month, but I am still looking at dates to reschedule the Men's Day at the Range, and will announce it as soon as it is scheduled. Remember the camping/kayak/canoe/fishing outing for those that enjoy the rustic outdoors. I have 2 sites reserved at Jordan Lake for June 20 – 22. It will be a great time of fellowship, great outdoor cooking, and quiet time in the Lord. Make sure to invite and bring someone to our men's monthly meeting as we continue to go through the book of Proverbs.

***Thank you and may God bless each of you.***



**Sunday, June 15**



With school coming to an end and summer just beginning, we are all bound to find ourselves with new opportunities. Some of these new opportunities will come from moving into the next stage of life, while others will arise from the change in our daily routines over the next few summer months. While new opportunities can certainly be exciting, they can also bring anxiety and even a sense of fear. But here is the good news: while our circumstances may change, presenting us with new opportunities, our "mission" never changes.

I'm reminded of Peter and John in Acts 4, when they were arrested and brought before the leaders in hopes of pressuring them to remain silent. Two verses from this passage have always stood out to me:

The first is Acts 4:13 – **When they observed the boldness of Peter and John and realized that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed and recognized that the men had been with Jesus.** Peter and John were certainly facing a new season filled with new opportunities as they began to fulfill Christ's last command to them: the Great Commission. But notice what made an impact on those around them. It wasn't anything particularly special about themselves – remember, they were described as **uneducated and untrained men**. Rather, it was that their lives reflected Christ. In everything we do, we should aspire for the same to be said of us: that it is recognizable that we have **"been with Jesus"**.

The second is Acts 4:19 – 20 – **Peter and John answered them, "Whether it's right in the sight of God for us to listen to you rather than to God, you decide; for we are unable to stop speaking about what we have seen and heard."**

Despite the peer pressure and threats against them, Peter and John kept their "mission" in mind. Their lives had been forever changed by Christ. It no longer mattered what others thought of them; what mattered was what Christ would think of their actions.

As you experience the upcoming opportunities God has in store for you, I pray that you are encouraged to step out and embrace each one. May you see each

as a chance to demonstrate that you have **“been with Jesus”**, pointing those around you to Him. And when (not if) challenging circumstances come, may you remember that pleasing God in every aspect of our daily lives is the only thing that truly matters.

*Sincerely, Chris Zinicola*

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Email: [chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com](mailto:chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com)

### Upcoming Youth Events:

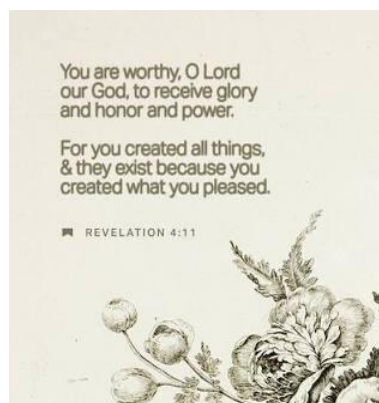
**VBS:** June 2 – 6, 6pm – 8:30pm

**Graduation Sunday:** June 8<sup>th</sup>

**DV8 @ Riverbend Creamery:**

June 22 @6pm

**Youth Camp:** July 14 - 18



June is the month we celebrate Father's Day. While this day was made to honor our earthly fathers, it is important to remember to give honor and praise to our Heavenly Father continuously.

With VBS, June is going to be a busy month! The Women of Calvary also have a few events planned.

On Sunday, June 1, the Women of Calvary will have their monthly meeting at 5:00 pm in the fellowship building. We will be using the homeless hygiene supplies to make hygiene packets to put in the Blessing Box.

#### Mission:

On June 2, we will be providing a meal for Hesus House. Since we also have VBS that night, we will just be taking it over earlier on Monday. We will discuss this at our meeting on June 1.

#### Fellowship:

On June 28 at 10am, several of the Women of Calvary will be going to Narrowway Productions to see "Ain't Got No Men". We will be having a time of laughter and fellowship.

On June 29 the Women of Calvary would like to invite you to a Baby Shower for Leah Saine. The shower will be from 2pm – 4pm.

*In Christ's Love, Robin*



### **Greeters for JUNE**

1- Frank & Gail McSwain

8- Tim & Christine Mosteller

15- Tracy Morrison & Kaleigh

22- Bud & Shirley Dellinger

29- Teresa Hill & Pat Rudisill



### **BACKPACK MINISTRY NEEDS**

We will continue to collect items for the Backpack Ministry throughout the summer 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

### **CHRISTIAN MINISTRY**

#### *Needs & News*

1- Christian Ministry is currently in need of someone to drive their truck on Mondays to pick up items locally (*donations from Walmart, Food Lion, etc.*)

2- Current needs: men's underwear, all sizes; men's jeans (*most needed sizes are 32 & 34*); men's tennis shoes ~ If you are unable to drop items off directly at Christian Ministry, there is a large gray tote located in the fellowship hall near the Back Pack table that you can place donations in and Shannon will make sure they get taken to the Ministry.

Thank you ☺

*\*Soup Kitchen Wish List:*

ketchup, mayonnaise, bowls, and napkins

Thank you, Shannon Wingate  
Calvary CM Coordinator

**Coming up next month:**



**Church Cookout**

**Sunday, July 6**

**@5:00 PM**

**Make plans now to join us!**

### **BOOKS OF THE BIBLE**



Thank you to all the ladies that joined us for our discussion on the Gospel of Mark. All ladies are welcome to join us on June 17 for our discussion of the Book of Ruth. This is a book that most of us know and love. We will meet in the fellowship hall from 6:30 – 8pm. Invite a friend and make plans to join in.

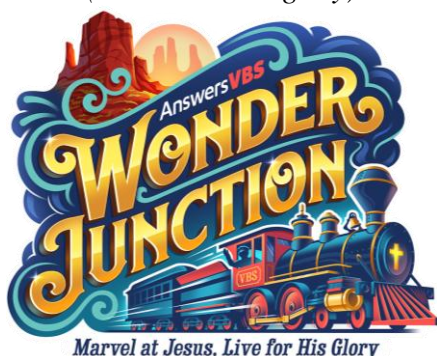
## **I ♥ VBS**

### **ALL ABOARD!!**

Everyone is invited to join us for VBS, June 2 – June 6, from 6pm – 8:30 pm each night. There will be something for all ages, so invite a friend and make plans to join us for

### **Wonder Junction**

*(meal served nightly)*



## Children's Workers for JUNE

### NURSERY 10:30 AM

**June 1** Linda Rickman

**June 8** Tracie Kline

**June 15** Shannon Wingate

**June 22** Catherine Cox

**June 29** Gail Sellers

### CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:30 AM

**June 1** Kim Jackson

**June 8** Kathy Bivens

**June 15** Kim Jackson

**June 22** Samantha Zinicola

**June 29** Samantha Zinicola

### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 7:00 PM

Nursery & Preschool

**June 4** **VBS**

**June 11** Pat Lowman

**June 18** Sandra Jennings

**June 25** Teresa Hill

## SUNSHINE CLUB

**Monday, June 23**

**@11:00 AM**

## Deacon of the Month STEVE BARBER

### A Look at Our Records Tithes & Offerings

*These figures reflect our General  
Fund amounts*

May 4..... \$12,299.59

May 11.....\$3,818.24

May 18..... \$4,459.24

May 25.....\$6,927.24

### Pastor Bruce Brooks, contact info:

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Chris Zinicola

cell, 910-934-2249

email:

[chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com](mailto:chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com)

## Sunday School Report

May 4..... 73

May 11..... 74

May 18..... 82

May 25..... 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 Zinicola....Facilities 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](mailto:calvbc@bellsouth.net)



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  
Calvary Baptist Church  
493 Calvary Church Road  
Lincolnton, NC 28092



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# THE MESSENGER

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

JUNE 2025

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