



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Calvary Church family,

November is here and we will celebrate Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 27. My prayer for Calvary Baptist Church is that we will thank our God daily, not just one time a year. So why should we give thanks? The Bible commands us to give thanks to God (Psalm 106:1; 107:1; 1 Chronicles 16:34; 1 Thessalonians 5:18). Most verses go on to list reasons why we should thank Him, such as "His love endures forever" (Psalm 136:3), "He is good" (Psalm 118:29), and "His mercy is everlasting" (Psalm 100:5). Thanksgiving and praise always go together. We cannot adequately Praise and Worship God without being thankful.

Feeling and expressing appreciation is good for us. Like any wise father, God wants us to learn to be thankful for all the gifts He has given us (James 1:17). It is in our best interest to be reminded that everything we have is a gift from Him. Without gratitude, we become arrogant and self-centered. We begin to believe that we have achieved everything on our own. Thankfulness keeps our hearts in right relationship to the Giver of all Good Gifts. Giving thanks also reminds us of how much we do have. Human beings are prone to covetousness. We tend to focus on what we don't have. By giving thanks continually, we are reminded of how much we do have. When we focus on blessings rather than wants, we are happier. When we start thanking God for the things we actually take for granted, our perspective changes. We realize that we could not even exist without the merciful blessings of God.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 says, "In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." We are to be thankful not only in pleasant situations, but in circumstances we don't like. When we thank God regardless of what comes into our lives, we keep bitterness at bay. We cannot be both thankful and bitter at the same time. It's not that we are grateful for tragedy, but we can be thankful for who God is, even during tragedy. He sustains us and gives us strength to endure (James 1:12; 2 Corinthians 12:9). We thank Him for His promise that "all things will work together for good, to those who love God and are called according to His purpose" (Romans 8:28). We can have thankful hearts toward God even when we do not feel thankful for the circumstance. We can grieve and still be thankful. We can hurt and still be thankful. We

can be angry at sin and still be thankful toward God. That is what the Bible calls a "sacrifice of praise" (Hebrews 13:15). Giving thanks to God keeps our heart in right relationship with Him and saves us from harmful emotions and attitudes that will rob us of the peace God wants us to experience (Philippians 4:6-7). The Greatest Gift that we have to be thankful for is Jesus Christ, for without Him all would be lost.

Lastly, I want to say thank you to our Veterans (11/11/25) who served, so that we can continue to Worship and Praise our Lord freely. I thank God for each of you daily.

In Christ, Pastor Bruce



Novemberrr is upon us once again. A busy time of year as we gear up for the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Even though it is busy, I pray we all remember to stop and count each and every blessing that God gives you. From time with family, a warm home, clean clothes, or just every breath you take... Remember that all is a gift from God.

I want to say thank you to all the men of our church that have participated in our Men's Ministry activities and meetings over the past year. It has been a blessing to fellowship, laugh, and get to know each of you better. Be sure to join us the first Sunday of each month at 5pm for our monthly men's meeting. It is always a blessing to study, worship, and learn with Godly men. And if you are not coming, we miss you.

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



It's shoebox collection time! Please have all boxes turned in by Nov. 12.

There is still time to pack a box. Boxes are available in the front of the sanctuary and can be returned to the

table in the fellowship hall, or they can be given to Kathy Bivens.



Greeters for NOVEMBER

2 Sid & Faye Eurey

9 Frank & Gail McSwain

16 Jimmy & Kym Gloska

23 Tracy M & Collin Barber

30 Bud & Shirley Dellinger



As we enter the month of November, we are often reminded and encouraged to be thankful. One way we can express our thankfulness is through contentment. Above all, as children of God, we are called to find contentment in God our Father, and in doing so, we demonstrate our thankfulness to Him. However, as with many things, being content is often easier said than done. So how can we express our thankfulness by being content in God? Psalm 136 provides an excellent example of practicing thankfulness through finding contentment in God alone. Throughout the psalm, the phrase ***His faithful love endures forever*** is repeated. Preceding each declaration of this statement is either a call to give thanks or a reason for our thanks, reminding us why we can be fully content in God alone. If we are to consistently express thanks and find contentment in God, we need to reflect on Him regularly. This is the key to Psalm 136. As the psalmist reflects on both who God is and what He has done, there is but one response: ***His faithful love endures forever!***

My encouragement for us this month and every day is to be people who consistently reflect on who God is and what he has done. When we are faithful in this, we position ourselves to worship our Lord God with a spirit of thankfulness and contentment in Him. Looking back on God's faithfulness in Scripture, in the life of the church, in the lives of those around us, and in our own lives provides the encouragement to continue trusting in Him and remaining content in Him. May we, each day, remind ourselves and those

around us that the Lord is worthy of our thanks, *for He is good... His faithful love endures forever.*

Sincerely, Chris Zinicola

Cell: 910-934-2249

Email: chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY *Needs & News*

Soup Kitchen Needs:

Mushroom soup, mayo, ketchup, napkins

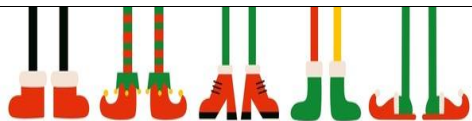
Volunteers are needed at CM for all positions.

CM is collecting USED toys for Christmas give out (*these are used as extra toys for children to receive on Christmas*). These are needed by December 6th.

The Angel Tree will soon be up at Wal-Mart. Go by and grab an angel and purchase NEW toys and return them to the Angel Tree or take them to CM. The Angel Tree is sponsored by Christian Ministry.

*Thinking of You
with Sympathy*

**The Pastor, Staff, and
Congregation would like to
extend our deepest sympathy to
Leann Osborne in the loss of her
husband, Gene Osborne.**



Coming soon ...

**ADULT CHOIR
CHRISTMAS CANTATA
Sunday, Dec. 7 @10:30 AM
(instead of Dec. 14)**

**THANKSGIVING SERVICE
Tuesday, November 25 at 7:00 PM
in the Fellowship Hall.
Refreshments will be provided.**



VETERAN'S BREAKFAST
Hosted by the Women's Ministry
Saturday, November 8th
8:30 AM in the fellowship hall



Some of the Women of Calvary are completing a Bible Study called "Heaven, When Faith Becomes Sight" by Jennifer Rothschild. Tracie Kline is facilitating the study and is doing excellent. (We meet at 6:30 pm on Mondays in the fellowship hall if you would like to join us.) Thus far we have studied about what the Word says about where we go when we die a physical death. This study really is thought-provoking and eye opening. But ultimately, it all leads to Jesus – none of this matters unless he is your Lord and Savior and you surrender your ALL to Him. As the pastor says, "What's your testimony?" Just growing up in a Christian home and going to church your whole life will not "get you into Heaven". If you are not sure where you are going when you die, let's talk. I would love to share my testimony with you and pray with you. I am a sinner saved only through the great love and unfathomable grace of my Jesus! He wants to be your Jesus, too!

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NOVEMBER:

Nov. 2 at 5PM in the fellowship hall, Women of Calvary meeting

Nov. 3 at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall, Bible Study

Nov. 8 at 8:30 AM, Breakfast honoring the Veterans, hosted by the Women of Calvary

Nov. 10 at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall, Bible Study

Nov. 14 from 5PM – 9PM, setting up for the Craft Fair. We will have pizza and drinks for supper.

Nov. 15 from 9AM – 2PM Women of Calvary 1st annual Craft Fair. We will have both church members and outside folks selling their homemade crafts. We will have food for sale – hot dogs,

nachos, chips, and drinks, along with a bake sale. All proceeds from the vendor spots and food will go to purchase round tables for the Fellowship Hall. Hope to see you there. We still have vendor spots available. See Kathy Bivens.

Nov. 17 at 6:30 PM in the fellowship hall, Bible Study.

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

In Christ's Love, Robin Sams



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



Calvary church family,

I don't have the words to adequately express my appreciation for all of the visits, calls, food, gifts, prayers, the Love Offering, and all-around love and support that you've shown to me during the loss of Gene. No one can ever truly prepare for this kind of devastating and sudden loss, but I have felt your love and prayers from the very beginning. Please continue to keep me in your prayers as I try to learn how to navigate my life without Gene in it. Calvary has been a source of comfort to me throughout my entire life, and each of you holds a special place in my heart.

Love in Christ

Leann Osborne



SHARING HOPE...CHANGING LIVES

**Baptist Children's Homes
of NORTH CAROLINA**

FOCUS FOR THIS MONTH:
NC Baptist Children's Home Offering
Church Goal: \$2,000

Children's Workers for NOVEMBER

NURSERY 10:30 AM

Nov 2 Linda Rickman

Nov 9 Tracie Kline

Nov 16 Shannon Wingate

Nov 23 Catherine Cox

Nov 30 Linda Rickman

CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:30 AM

Nov 2 Robin Sams

Nov 9 Kathy Bivens

Nov 16 Kim Jackson

Nov 23 Cathy Williams

Nov 30 Robin Sams

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 7:00 PM

Nursery & Preschool

Nov 5 Samantha Zinicola

Nov 12 Pat Lowman

Nov 19 Sandra Jennings

Nov 26 No services

**Deacon of the Month
JERRY SAINE**

A Look at Our Records

Tithes & Offerings

*These figures reflect our General
Fund amounts*

Oct 5..... \$8,525.58

Oct 12.....\$8,773.49

Oct 19..... \$4,756.24

Oct 26.....\$4,925.85

**Pastor Bruce Brooks,
contact info:**

cell, 704-745-7077

email: brooks0969@gmail.com

Chris Zinicola

cell, 910-934-2249

email:

chris.m.zinicola@gmail.com

Sunday School Report

Oct 5..... 70

Oct 12..... 84

Oct 19..... 73

Oct 26..... 73

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

prayer

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

**SUNSHINE CLUB
Monday, November 17
@11:00 AM**

**US Postage Paid
Non Profit
Permit No. 15
Lincolnton, NC 28092**

Return Service Requested

**THE MESSENGER
Calvary Baptist Church
493 Calvary Church Road
Lincolnton, NC 28092**

THE MESSENGER

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

NOVEMBER 2025



*I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go into the house of the Lord."*

