

The Columns



Calvary

Baptist Church

608 Campbell, Avenue, S.W.
Roanoke, VA 24018
(540) 344-9237

<http://www.calvaryroanoke.org>

Dr. Steven W. Pollard, Pastor
Robert McKinney, Interim Minister of Music
Rose Ann Burgess, Interim Organist
Donna de Simone, Director of Preschool Ministry
Debbie Foutz, Office Manager
Jane Price, Nursery
info@calvaryroanoke.org



I don't remember many specific things I learned in High School but I do remember a definition for history from Perry Altice's 11th grade history class: "History is that part of the past which instructs us in the present for our benefit in the future." So, at the writing of this article, I find myself trying to gain some perspective on the year past and what it might mean for the future.

Here are a few of those thoughts:

One can't live long without, at some point, coming to an awareness that the days you've lived are passed. You can never get them back to correct, adjust or simply enjoy once more. Each one of those precious days has been subtracted from whatever number allotted to each one of us in this life. In my case those days ahead are likely to be fewer than those passed.

So, regardless of what I've done with those days gone by, my mind turns to those precious few moments still ahead which seem to be at the ready to disappear like the morning fog on the occasion of an August sunrise.

I find myself wondering what I am going to do that might be meaningful, even helpful for those who follow? I don't labor under the false illusion that anyone will remember my name or anything about me after my grandchildren (if I ever have any) follow me from this mortal coil. No, I don't expect remembrance. I do, however, want to finish my race thinking that **something** I did, made a small, positive difference for someone "down the road."

Will I have carried my load or will I have been a burden? Will I be regarded as one who "plowed the ground" for God's next "crop?" If I have any doubt about such a role, I should treat each moment as though anything were possible...even likely...if I can manage to get "me" out of the way.

So let me invite those of you who may read this article to ponder with me. What will be your legacy? What will be thought of you when your name is no longer uttered? Will you have made a path that can be followed by the next "traveler?" How about those who gather and call themselves "church?" What will be thought of us when our names are spoken no more?

Your Pastor,
Steven W. Pollard

Congregational Meeting



Winter Church in Conference

Calvary's Winter Church in Conference will be held on Sunday, January 15, following Morning Worship. Please plan to attend. Your input, comments and suggestions are all important!



Most of us who profess faith in Jesus Christ have a desire to fulfill the command of Christ and share His truth with others. But just "sharing about Jesus" is not the same as "sharing Jesus." Jesus' last words to us were, "Go therefore and make disciples...." So, 'sharing Jesus' means to share good news in such a way that others will want to follow Him. The problem is not all of us feel naturally gifted or even comfortable with leading others to faith in Jesus.

That's something every believer can overcome.

The two-day session will be held on **Friday, February 3rd, from 6:30PM to 9:30PM** and on **Saturday, February 4th, from 8:30AM to 4:00PM** in the dining room of Calvary Baptist Church. The purpose of this course is to help you discover how to share your faith in a way that fits 'you.' Telling someone about Jesus is a such a personal endeavor, that each of us needs some communication 'tools' that fit our personality and circumstance. If that sounds like something that would help you, (And really there is no believer that 'Becoming a Contagious Christian' would not help) you really should be there

Please contact the Calvary Baptist Church Office via phone at 540-344-9237 or email info@calvaryraonoke.org as soon as possible so that we can order a student's book for you. See you there!



The 2016 year-end contribution statements will be mailed by January 31st to all donors who contributed \$250 or more during the year. Thank you for your ongoing support of Calvary and its ministries!

Evelyn Townsend Circle



Christmas Toy Store Collection

Many thanks to our Calvary Family for the bountiful collection of new toys which you provided for the Baptist Friendship House Toy Store in December. Our circle purchased \$100.00 worth of toys. Thanks to the circle shoppers, Janice Deyerle and Ellen Scott. Together our 95 items should have brought many smiles to the faces of neighborhood children on Christmas morning.

Poinsettia Deliveries

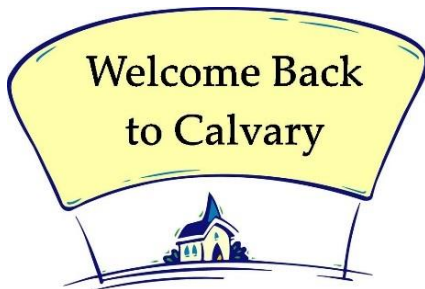
Twenty-three of our Calvary homebound members received poinsettias delivered by Anne Andrews, Eddie Eades, Sue Epperly, Betty Hall, Cheryl Nicely, Kim Pitts, Grace Taylor, Ray and Patty Templin and Coretta Sowder. Thank you!!

Soup for Seniors

In January, circle members invite all Calvary friends to join them in collecting non-perishable food items for the Local Area Agency On Aging (LOA) Soup for Seniors project. Suggested items are soup, crackers, oatmeal, peanut butter, canned tuna, canned fruits and vegetables and instant breakfast drink. (no glass containers, please) Collection bins will be in the classroom by the elevator until January 29. Our Roanoke Valley Seniors thank you!!

Next Meeting

The Circle will meet on January 9th at 7:00 pm at the home of Betty Hall, 805 Dillon Drive, Vinton, VA 24179, 540- 342-2778. New members are always welcome!



Welcome back to our newest members, Bob and Esther Crosier who join us through transfer of letter from Salem Baptist Church.

Bob and Esther Crosier
1714 Wayburn Dr.
Salem, VA 24153
(540) 986-5600



FROM THE
Pulpit

<u>Date</u>	<u>First Reading</u>	<u>Second Reading</u>	<u>Message Title</u>
January 01	Psalm 148	Matthew 2:13-23	We Still Need the Prince of Peace
January 08	Ephesians 3:1-12	Matthew 2:1-12	The Take-Away from The Manger
January 15	Psalm 40:1-11	John 1:29-42	Who Needs a Lamb?
January 22	Isaiah 9:1-4	Matthew 4:12-23	Following Jesus Is Not for The Lazy
January 29	Matthew 5:1-12	Micah 6:1-8	Good Is Great!

Inclement
Weather



Winter is officially here so it's time to communicate our plan for inclement weather.

Worship is a very important part of the life of our church body, so we will make every effort to remain open for our worship services. We will always trust you to make your own decision about getting out and traveling in inclement weather. Just like the school system, we may wait until Sunday morning to make a decision about any change in our schedule. We will make a brief assessment of travel conditions around the church and the safety of our parking lot and entrances. If there is no change to our church schedule, we will make no announcement. If we cannot assure safe conditions for people to park, enter, and exit our facilities, we will cancel services and/or postpone activities. We will communicate any changes in our Sunday church schedule by 8:00 AM utilizing the following means:

Television: WDBJ Channel 7 (CBS) and WSLS Channel 10 (NBC) are the TV stations who are currently set up to announce a schedule change for us.

E-mail: An e-mail will be sent to those for which we have addresses.

Church Website and Facebook: A closed message will be posted on the church website and our Facebook page.

During the week, the church office will follow the same inclement weather policy that is used by Roanoke City Schools. If the decision is made to close the office during the week, we will use the same methods as listed above to make you aware of the closure. A decision will be made by 9:00 AM on Wednesdays if the Bible Study class will be canceled.



Music Ministry Search Committee:

The Search Committee has posted the Minister of Music position on various websites and has begun accepting applications. To date, a few interested individuals have already applied for the position. The search committee will convene again in early January for further discussions and begin reviewing these applications. The position for organist has not yet been posted as the committee feels the new Minister of Music should have a hand in the decision making process for that position. Until the Minister of Music/Organist positions are filled, Robert McKinney and Rose Ann Burgess will continue to fill these vacancies. We feel certain that God will lead us in finding the right persons for these positions, but ask that everyone keep the Music Ministry at Calvary in your prayers.



Funny Bones

Two little boys were known troublemakers, stealing everything they could get their hands, even from the church. One day a priest stopped one of the boys and asked, "Where is God?" The boy shrugged and the priest repeated, "Where is God?"

The boy ran out of the cathedral crying to his home where he hid in a closet. Eventually his brother found him and asked, "What's wrong?" The crying boy replied, "We're in trouble now! God is missing and they think we took him!"

Birthday Blessings to members of our Calvary Family!



1/08 - Kelly Seidel
1/11 - Nora Bell
1/12 - Kaitlyn Dwyer
1/14 - Mickey Cratch
1/15 - Patty Templin
1/16 - Brian Britt
1/19 - Shirley Fletcher
1/21 - Becky Wirt, Brian Shell
1/22 - Nichole Howell
1/24 - Carol McMillian
1/26 - Margaret Fariss
1/29 - Rosemary Watkins