

The Columns



Calvary

Baptist Church

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Last week in my sermon, I used an illustration about rock climbing to describe what it means to be prepared. In short, I said, if one were going to climb a mountain, you would need to buy lots of ropes, belts, hooks, snaps, helmets, etc. Then you would probably go take some lessons before you finally got far enough off the ground that a fall would mean serious injury.

There is, however, one over-arching step that should probably be mentioned: You would have to be in the right frame of mind (some would say “out of your mind,” but humor me). To begin something as serious as climbing a mountain, one must be completely consumed and determined before you take the first step towards attaining your goal.

As many of you know I am preaching a sermon series entitled, “Captured by God’s Vision.” My intention in sharing this series of sermons is to get us to a “place of faith” where we are “ready, willing, and able” (in the “right” frame of mind) to receive God’s future story for us. For Calvary Baptist Church to move towards realizing God’s future story for us, we’ve got to get ready. No matter the direction God points us in, it will be challenging, out of the ordinary, and will demand our complete commitment...so we’ve got to be ready.

For me “ready” means to first be close to God. I think this one is easy to evaluate. If you are close to someone, you learn to know where they are and how they are moving. If you observe someone you are close to, even the smallest movements have meaning - they and speak. When you are close enough to someone that you can study their face, perhaps you can even guess what they are thinking. To be close to God is to be close enough to hear, see, feel, detect... know the direction God is moving.

So, join me in worship as we focus our attention of preparing to be Captured by God’s Vision.

See you in worship!
Your Pastor, Steven



Deacon News! I loved worship last Sunday. As part of our service, we ordained one new deacon and welcomed three other back to active service on the Fellowship. I was delighted that we could ordain Rita Bryant as a deacon and I look forward to her ministry at Calvary in the years to come. We also install three more deacons to active status. They are Linda Dwyer, Jim Bryant, and Ben Martin. I think they will be a fine complement to the deacon leadership that will continue their work.

I also want to thank Roger Austin for his faithful service as Chair of the Deacon Fellowship. Roger has lent exemplary leadership to the Fellowship for the past 3 ½ years. Calvary Baptist Church owes him our deepest gratitude for the spirit of togetherness and unity that permeated his tenure. Thanks, Roger! Your church family loves and appreciates you!

Following our service of ordination and dedication, The Fellowship of Deacons met and elected Jack Pilcher as their chair for the coming year. I look forward to the work we will do together as ministers to and with Calvary Baptist Church! Welcome aboard, Jack!

Your Pastor, Steven



Summer is tough for churches. With so many taking much needed vacations, there is always a substantial downturn in giving. So, please remember to maintain your pledge while you're away. While you're away, (or even if you're just home in your pj's) you can take advantage of our Online giving option through our website, either for regular tithes or for special gifts. It's fast, it's simple, and it really helps us keep the lights on and programs going during the summer months. Just click here to access the site: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?token=N03zi69NUKyz9oSvYXFUgjV_CfK3cQE8T89T9fFKFSBzCyzxDWMyU6tCgKjf4yKlIdOy0&country.x=US&locale.x=US

Blessings and safe travels



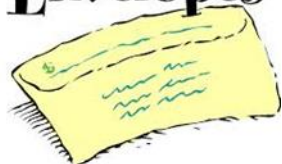
Minister of Music Search Committee:

I'm sorry to say that the Search Committee's pursuit of our number one choice for the Minister of Music position did not pan out as the candidate accepted a position with another congregation. Therefore, the Search Committee will be reconvening during July to continue the process to find another qualified candidate. We are confident that God will lead us to the right person as He sees fit; but in the meantime, please continue to pray for our church and the music ministry at Calvary.

Music Ministry:

As has been the practice in the past, the Sanctuary Choir will be taking the summer months off; however, that doesn't mean we won't be having any music on Sunday mornings. We will take these next few weeks to enjoy some solos/special music by some talented folks in our church and others in our community. Music is such a special part of our worship here at Calvary and I know you will be truly blessed by these performances as it is all offered in praise of God.

Offering Envelopes



Our offering envelopes (August 2017 - July 2018) are in the process of being ordered. Once they have arrived a communication will be sent.



Seeking WALK TEAMS for JDRF One Walk, September 24th in Elmwood Park

The annual JDRF Greater Blue Ridge ONE WALK is a fun, family-friendly event where dedicated walkers, volunteers and sponsors raise money to make living with Type One Diabetes (T1D) safer and healthier—until it is no longer a threat.

This is a great opportunity to showcase good work in the community, and Walk Day activities at Elmwood Park include a 3-mile and 1-mile walk route, as well as a DJ, live band, Kids Tent and lunch. The event will be held on September 24, 2017 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM.

Please consider representing Calvary Baptist with a team of walkers, or invite another organization you're involved with, and be a part of the largest T1D fundraising event in the world!

School, church and organization teams are considered "company teams" in the registration. For more information or to register online visit: https://www2.jdrf.org/site/SPageServer/?pagename=walk_homepage, or call JDRF Greater Blue Ridge at 540-772-197 for more information, and help create a world without Type 1 Diabetes.



Funny Bones

A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. So he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note: "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION."

Birthday Blessings to members of our Calvary Family!



7/01 - Hallie Urquhart
7/06 - K. P. Fitzgerald
7/14 - Harry Bundy
7/15 - Kim Pitts
7/16 - Kathy Richardson, Ben Smith
7/19 - Anne Andrews, Diane Nininger
7/21 - Ellen Hayes
7/24 - Ken Rodhe, Ben Martin
7/25 - Drake Bradley, Rose Ann Burgess
7/27 - Betty Garraghty
7/28 - Joseph Hylton, Elizabeth Bryant
7/29 - Trevor McClure
7/30 - Nancy Akers