



Calvary Baptist Church

From Our Pastor

Dear Calvary Family,

Damar Hamlin. My guess is that you've heard that name more than once in the last few days. Damar is the 24 year old football player for the Buffalo Bills who collapsed on the field after the end of a rather routine tackle early in the game. Damar tackled a running back from the opposing team, stood to his feet and within seconds fell to the ground motionless. It was discovered his heart had stopped beating for an, as yet, unknown reason. His heartbeat was restored on the field before he was moved to a medical facility with Level 1 Trauma Care. At present he is still alive and being treated in a Cincinnati hospital.

It was a sobering thing to watch with millions of others on national television. His teammates, the members of the opposing team as well as the entire stadium-full of fans stood, knelt, wept, paced, hugged, spoke words of concern, and prayed. Even the network announcers were stunned and at a loss for words. The one thing I heard them say as they tried to find some perspective was those who believed in prayer should do so.

Doubtless, such a near fatal mishap in an activity that isn't perceived as endangering one's life, leaves many shaken. Of course we want nothing less than a full recovery for Damar Hamlin; it would be an extraordinary blessing we're he able to return to competition on such a high level, however, was struck by such a wide spread call upon the Almighty for His intervention in the matter. Not that that sort of effort was out of place, but I did wonder what other circumstances might also be rightly deserving of such entreaty.

During the time the medical team was working feverishly to restore Damar's heartbeat, what sort of other things, do you think may be going on in the world that might in need of the prayerful intervention of God's people? A quick Google search reveals some other things occurring in the world during the 30 minutes of the most intense EMT treatment that night: 180 children died of hunger, and another 150 adults. As of

today there are 27 armed conflicts going on the world. 2.9 people commit suicide every 30 minutes in the US. Tonight at least a half million people in the US will go to bed without a roof over their head.

It's not that Damar doesn't deserve our prayers for God to save him, but at about he others. Do starving children not deserve prayers? Have we become so accustomed to people killing people that praying for peace is something that so easily slip our minds. Yes, by all means, pray for Damar, but pray for children that will go to bed hungry tonight and not awaken in the morning. Pray for those who will lose their lives in a battle for someone else's to get richer. Pray for Damar but don't forget those being victimized in human trafficking. Don't forget those here in our city who struggle with drug abuse every day.

Next time something tragic happens and prayer is called for, by all means offer prayer those suffering, but let me encourage you to add too your prayer those who need food, or safety, or a warm dry place to sleep to tonight.

Prayer is always the right thing to do in every circumstance

Sol Deo Gloria,
Steven W Pollard



Featured Dates

Sunday, Jan 8th	3:00 PM
Church Council Meeting	
Monday, Jan 9th	12:00 PM
Evelyn Townsend Circle Christmas Lunch	
Sunday, January 15th	3:00 PM
Winter Church in Conference	

From Our Music Director

Evelyn Townsend Circle

The Evelyn Townsend Circle will again provide week-end lunch bags to the Keystone Community Center in January. This center provides child care, after school care and children's Bible study to its participants. If you would like to help with the cost of these bags a member of the circle can help you.

In January the circle will be supporting the LOA's Soup for Seniors campaign. All church members may participate in this. Please make checks payable to Calvary, with Soup for Seniors in the memo. Money or checks may be placed in the offering or mailed to the church office.

In December the circle was able to make a donation directly to missionaries in Ukraine thanks to missionaries we know and support in Hungary. If you would like more information about this, contact a circle member.

"The Evelyn Townsend Circle will meet on Monday, January 9th at Noon for a Christmas Luncheon prepared by Ellen Scott at her home."

2023 Pledge Campaign

On next page of this newsletter you will see a letter from the Stewardship and Planned Giving Committee as well as a pledge card. If you are electing to pledge in the upcoming year, please return your pledge cards as soon as possible. You may place your card in the offering plate if attending on Sundays, mail it to the church at PO Box 12226 – Roanoke, VA 24023 or you can email your information to the church office at: info@calvaryroanoke.org.

*Thank
You!*

Dear Calvary Family,

I am once again humbled by your generosity and thoughtfulness.

Thank you so much for the card and the monetary gift. I am truly blessed to be a part of the Calvary Family!

Thank you,
Debbie Foutz

So Be It.

Let the church say "Amen!" At one time churches sang Amen after every hymn, but that practice has diminished greatly now. Some churches reserve the singing of an amen for certain doxological or Trinitarian hymns or during Communion. But what does Amen really mean? You might have heard it means so be it, which is certainly true. It is also an exclamation that says you agree strongly with someone or something that was just said or sung. For example one might proclaim "Amen" or "Amen to that" after a rousing musical selection or a profound statement in a sermon or other statement made by someone in casual conversation. I sometimes wish we would bring back the sung amens after hymns, as it represents a more profound group affirmation by the singing assembly as they complete the singing of a hymn, whether prayerfully or joyfully. It is as if the whole congregation sings, "We agree. Amen to that!"

With that said, let me say to you, the church, "Amen!" You have been an amazing church, often having to function in very trying or emotionally tense times the past few years as we transition to a new ministry and a new Calvary Baptist Church. You have survived and thrived. You continue to support beautiful and moving music and worship experiences and work to be the hands of Christ in the community. Personally, I am so grateful for the many supportive cards and beautiful gifts you gave me over the Christmas holidays and the encouragement you have provided to our incredible choir. I am honored to be a servant leader among you. Amen, thank you!

There are wonderful opportunities available to you this new year. Join the choir. We really need more voices in the choir. Consider singing a solo or playing an instrument in worship. And if you can't do any of those things, invite others to Calvary so they can also experience the welcoming and inclusive love we all show each other every time we gather. As the great praise hymn says, "Come, Christians, join to sing. Alleluia, Amen!"

Whit

2023 Pledge Campaign

Dear Partner in Ministry,

When one hears the word "stewardship," minds usually turn to thoughts of monetary gifts to the church. That understanding of "stewardship" is only part of what it means to be a steward. The definition of stewardship is "the oversight of that which belongs to another." So, for believers, that means all that we have, belongs to God and we are merely managers of God's assets. With that perspective in mind, our relationship to the "things" we possess should be that of overseer instead of owner. I'm not saying anyone should sell all and give it to the church. I am encouraging you to begin to participate in supporting the ministries of Calvary Baptist Church by making regular contributions.

You may already be giving all you can afford. Let me say, "Well done, thank you for your gift. Your church appreciates your contribution." If, however that is not the case, I want to challenge you in 2023 to grow as a giver.

If you aren't already giving 10% or more, consider, if you are able, giving a little more. The amount doesn't matter. Your gift should reflect the quality of your relationship with God.

If you need a place to start giving, try tithing. Tithing originated in the Old Testament as a sort of temple tax to support the operation of the temple. Today, monetary gifts should be an expression of our thanks to God; for sending Jesus to us; for providing for our needs; for God's love and care; for God's presence...you get the idea.

Frankly, God doesn't want you to give because God needs the money. Giving financially, gives each of us, as followers of Christ, an opportunity to re-set our priorities and express to God our thanks in a more concrete way. Give to that which has your heart; if you have given your heart to Jesus, case closed!

If you would like to review a copy of the budget that was approved during the October 16th church in conference, please contact the church office. It is now time for us to commit ourselves to meeting our Budget.

Below, you will find a Commitment Card. If you wish to make a more concrete commitment to giving in the year to come, we ask you to fill it out and return it. You may do so by mail or by dropping it in the offering plate at a Sunday morning service. We will collect the cards and report to the church the amount that has been subscribed for the coming year.

If you choose to make your commitment to giving a private matter between you and God, that's fine, too. The main thing is to decide that you will be a giver in 2023. Simply decide what kind of goal you will set for yourself.

Thank you for supporting Calvary Baptist Church, we look forward to working together towards the future that God has in store for us!

The Stewardship and Planned Giving Committee

"But since you excel in everything...see that you also excel in this grace of giving."

2 Corinthians 8:7



My 2023 Pledge for Calvary Baptist Church is

\$ _____

☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly ☐ Yearly

Name: _____ Address: _____

Signature: _____

Poinsettia and Donations in Loving Memory and In Honor of Family and Friends

Below is a list of those that you chose to remember or honor during Christmas 2022

In Loving Memory of:

Dr. Harry and Frances Gamble
Samuel and Rose Moresco
Charles F. Secrist, Jr.
Mary Sutherland
Bea Foss
Alta and George Carden
Louise and Clarence Hawkins
Laban Johnson
Ernie Deyerle
Lillian & Charles Dollman
Bessie & Ernie Garland
Sadie Dollman
Lucy Dollman
Carl Garland
Bill and Dody Matze
Ms. Sandra L. Overstreet
Mr. and Mrs. Harry L. Lewis
Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Bailey
Charles F. Secrist, Jr.
Bess, Warren & John Kinsey
Belva and Horace Hicks
Tommy Sutherland
Warren Cratch
Bessie & Warren Kinsey
John Michael Kinsey
Ty and Rosemary Watkins
Ashley Garraghty
Doris St. Clair
Scott St. Clair
Todd St. Clair
Dr. Richard H. Fisher
Anne Katherine Fletcher Fisher
Richard H. Fisher, Jr.
Rev. Dan Scott
Paul M. & Ruby V. Howell
Mr. & Mrs. J. M. Vernon
Mr. & Mrs. S. N. Howell
Joyce Freed
Muriel W. Clark
Ann W. Williams
Kay W. Coiner
Russell & Eloise Wilkerson
Florence & Syl Stump
Helen and Jimmy Slusher
Helen Robertson

In Honor of:

Holly H. Gray \$ Family
Charlene Dollman Burch & Family
Debbie Foutz
Robert McKinney & Kevin Carter
Calvary Staff
Bobbie Hawkins

Given by:

Angela and Dominic Moresco
Angela and Dominic Moresco
Vilas Secrist
Cara Sutherland, Granddaughter
Cara Sutherland, Granddaughter
The Family
The Family
The Family
Janice Deyerle
Betty Hall, Daughter
Betty Hall, Granddaughter
Betty Hall, Granddaughter
Betty Hall, Niece
Betty Hall, Niece
Debbie & Gordon Williams, Jay Matze & Family
Evelyn Lewis
Evelyn Lewis
Evelyn Lewis
The Dwyer Family
Neal and Kathy Kinsey
Neal and Kathy Kinsey
His Family
Mickey Cratch
David Kinsey, Son
David Kinsey, Brother
David Kinsey, Lifelong Friends
Betty Garraghty
Joe St. Clair
Joe St. Clair
Joe St. Clair
Anne Fisher Andrews
Anne Fisher Andrews
Anne Fisher Andrews
Ellen Scott
Paul V., Cathy, Sarah & Nichole Howell
Paul V., Cathy, Sarah & Nichole Howell
Paul V., Cathy, Sarah & Nichole Howell
Susan Snyder
Susan Snyder
Susan Snyder
Susan Snyder
Susan Snyder
Jim and Patsy Stump
Jim and Patsy Stump
Doug & Pat Slusher

Given by:

Betty Hall, Mother
Betty Hall, Sister
Lisa Baker
Cara Sutherland
Cara Sutherland
Cara Sutherland

January Serving Schedule

January 1

Ushers

Kathy Kinsey, Neal Kinsey

Deacons

Kathy Kinsey Ch., Ray Templin, Glenda Pollard
and John Urquhart

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Ray Templin

January 8

Ushers

Cara Sutherland, Lisa Baker

Deacons

Neal Kinsey, Ch., Linda Dwyer, Susan Snyder

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Bobbie Hawkins

January 15

Ushers

John Urquhart, Linda Dwyer, Ray Templin

Deacons

John Urquhart, Ch., Linda Dwyer, Becky Beard

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Glenda Pollard

January 22

Ushers

Lisa Baker, Cara Sutherland

Deacons

Janice Deyerle, Ch., Ray Templin, Susan Snyder

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Janice Deyerle

January 29

Ushers

Kathy Kinsey, Neal Kinsey

Deacons

Kathy Kinsey Ch., Ray Templin, Glenda Pollard

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Susan Snyder

1/08 – Kelly Seidel
1/09 – Esther Crosier
1/11 – Nora Bell
1/12 – Kaitlyn Dwyer
1/14 – Mickey Cratch
1/15 – Patty Templin
1/16 – Brian Britt
1/21 – Becky Wirt
1/22 – Nichole Howell



Calvary Baptist Church
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Church Staff
Dr. Steven W. Pollard, Pastor
Jon "Whit" Whittington, Music Director/Organist
Debbie Foutz, Office Manager

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