The Columns-February 2023



Calvary Baptist Church

From Our Pastor

Dear Calvary Family,

Reverend Melissa Scott has been doing something for her congregants for the past several years. She comes up with a list of random words of faith and encouragement, prints them on cards or objects, then distributes those among members and anyone else who cares to join in. Everyone picks their own item, card or object without knowing the word printed on the backside. Rev. Scott tells recipients: This is your "word for the year, place it where you will see it often." That way they will be reminded to think often about how that particular word relates to their lives.

I have been fortunate to be included the last two years. My "word" for 2022 was "Joy." My word for 2023 is "Enough."

I put the card on the dash of my car where I could not avoid seeing it every time I got in. So, I've had a few encounters with "enough" and it's beginning to haunt me. I'm of the opinion that "enough" is a large and curious word, don't you agree. We use it all the time as an adjective to describe adequacy or sufficiency. But "enough" strikes me in a more existential way.

"Enough" comes to me often with a question mark. As in, "haven't I eaten enough." (The reply to myself is usually, "duh"?) I also wonder on many occasions, "have I done enough?" The answer is usually, "hardly." Perhaps, the deepest "enough" question I pose to myself is, "Am I enough?"

See what I mean?

"Am I enough?" is almost nearly an accusation. It almost comes across as, "Am I ever enough?". Then of course, one must go down the list: am I husband enough? am I father enough? am I friend enough, am I son or brother of uncle or in-law enough? What does it mean to be enough in any of those roles? I nearly always answer, "No, there is always more I could be or do in all those things." It's completely frustrating to always feel you've left "something-on-the-table" when it comes to giving one's self to others.

We could continue down this road forever; however, there is only one "enough" question that truly counts in the cosmic scheme of things: "Am I "enough" for God?" It pains me to say so, but I know that I can never be "enough," on my own, to measure up to God's standards. Part of me wonders, why should I try to behave better, listen better, love better, give more, pray more, study the Bible more...you know, all those things we think God uses to evaluate us. The obvious answer is, of course no one can, of their own doing, ever measure up to God's standards. If that were the accepted answer, it would still leave me wondering how to satisfy that deep, deep longing for a relationship with my creator. How would I ever truly know myself without knowing my God.

The "enough" question's short answer is, of course, I am incapable of repairing my cosmic defect, my revolt, my rebellion, my sin. I am only enough because Christ has proclaimed me "more than enough." My state of "more than enough" has nothing to do with anything I may have done to bring such a condition into reality in my life. I am only "more than enough" because Jesus is sole proprietor of all the "enough" in existence. He has granted all the resources I need to know God, to be acceptable, to be holy, to be whole, to be...well..."enough".

So, if you have one of those occasions when you wonder if you are "Enough," rest assured, you are not. But, by the power of our resurrected Lord, Jesus Christ, you have "enough" to be "enough" before God. You had nothing to do with God's love, acceptance, and imbuing us with "enough-ness". So just take it. That's all, just receive it. All who receive Christ as forgiver and leader are, forever, "enough!"

Sol Deo Gloria, Steven W Pollard



Evelyn Townsend Circle

The Evelyn Townsend Circle met in January and addressed over sixty valentines for church members and missionaries. This month the circle is providing weekend lunch bags for Keystone Community Center to assure the children have adequate nutrition over the weekend. The circle also supported the LOA Soup for Seniors which will end on February 5.

"The Evelyn Townsend Circle will meet on Monday, February 13, 2023 at noon at Colonial Avenue Baptist Church, 4165 Colonial Avenue, Roanoke, VA 24018.

Ash Wednesday Service

Calvary Baptist Church will be joining Colonial Avenue Baptist Church and Colonial Presbyterian Church in an Ash Wednesday Service. The service will be held on February 22nd at 7:00 PM at Colonial Presbyterian Church. We look forward to joining you there.

February

Featured Dates

Sunday, Feb 5th

Potato/Salad Bar & Dessert Auction 11:45 AM Deacon's Meeting 3:00 PM

Sunday, Feb 12th 3:00 PM

Church Council Meeting

Monday, Feb 13th 12:00 PM

Evelyn Townsend Circle

Sunday, February 15th 12:00 PM

New Wednesday Bible Study Series

Wednesday, Feb 22nd 7:00 PM

Ash Wednesday Service

Thank You For Your Blessings Lord

By Catherine Pulsifer

God on high, you have Blessed us so Our family, our friends And our pastor we know.

Each person is a blessing And a special grace to lend May the love of your heart Never be withheld or suspend.

For those in our lives who fill us
With peace and joy untold
Thank you, Lord, for these blessings
Both young and old.

Your Presence is felt in Such inspiring ways We give thanks for Your touch Throughout all of our days.

2022 Financial Update

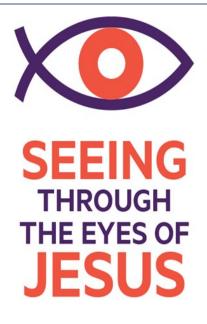
In 2022, the results for the year were a \$18,580.04 improvement over the original budget projection.

At year end, after the sale of the Campbell Ave property, Calvary's total assets, which include checking, savings, and investments (cash, stocks, bonds, etc.) totaled \$1,303,816.97.

To date we have received 20 pledges totaling \$83,405.00 which is \$26,595.00 short of our budget goal of \$110,000.00.



The 2022 year-end contribution statements have been mailed. If you don't receive yours or have questions, please contact the church office. Thank you for your ongoing support of Calvary and its ministries!



Our Next Wednesday Bible Study Series.

Our Lenten Journey

February 15 through April 5 we will spend 8 weeks looking at the life through the eyes of Jesus.

We begin the journey with Jesus gone missing as Luke records that horrifying experience for Mary and Joseph. Jesus is not missing in his mind rather we see him in his Father's House. Luke 2:41-52

Week two we are taken to a gathering with Jesus and the disciples where we see Peter declare Jesus is the Messiah. Matthew 16. 13-20.

Week three we see Jesus calling Peter to walk on water. Matthew 14:22-33.

Week four we see what happens when we take our eyes off Jesus. Matthew 14:22-33, John 15:1-11.

Week five we look at the role of the church in helping us see the way forward. Again, we visit Matthew 14:22-33 and add Mark 8:22-26.

Week six we see our role as forwarding the mission that Jesus saw through his eyes of love. Matthew 28:16-20 and Luke 4:16-20.

Week seven we see the importance of hospitality in Jesus how our call to an attitude of hospitality. Matthew 14:22-33, Romans 12:1-2. Philippians 2:1-11.

Week eight we are asked if we can be a transforming congregation by getting out of the boat keeping our eyes on Jesus as we walk on the water of new life. Matthew 14: 22-33.

February Serving Schedule

February 5

Ushers.....

Kathy Kinsey, Neal Kinsey

Deacons

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

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: John Urquhart

February 12

Ushers.....

Cara Sutherland, Lisa Baker

Deacons

Neal Kinsey, Ch., Linda Dwyer, Susan Snyder

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Susan Snyder

February 19

Ushers

John Urquhart, Linda Dwyer, Ray Templin

Deacons.....

John Urquhart, Ch., Linda Dwyer, Becky Beard

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Kathy Kinsey

February 26

Ushers

Lisa Baker, Cara Sutherland

Deacons.....

Janice Deyerle, Ch., Ray Templin, Susan Snyder

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Ray Templin



We are asking for volunteers to usher on Sundays between 1:30 PM and 2:00 PM. If you would like to volunteer please contact Bobbie Hawkins.

Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS

2/01 – Don Richardson

2/02 – Sue Epperly

2/03 - Susan Snyder

2/06 - Kathy Kinsey

2/07 - Raymond Eades

2/09 - Evelyn Lewis

2/12 - Anna Mae Smith

2/17 - Linda Reynolds

2/25 - Eddie Eades

2/27 - Patrick de Simone

2/28 – Janice Deyerle (2/29)



Church Staff

Dr. Steven W. Pollard, Pastor Robert McKinney, Interim Music Director Bill Lininger, Accompanist. Debbie Foutz, Office Manager 540-344-9237 info@calvaryroanoke.org www.calvaryroanoke.org

Calvary Baptist Church PO Box 12226 Roanoke, VA 24023