



Calvary Baptist Church

From Our Pastor

On Sunday, May 21, Colonial Avenue Baptist Church and Calvary Baptist Church, in separate meetings, both voted to begin the process of dissolving their present congregations in favor of beginning a new congregation with the other.

That's about the simplest way to describe what was set in motion just two weeks ago, and we didn't arrive at that conclusion easily. Of course, we prayed, and questioned, and surveyed, and discussed, and prayed some more before we arrived at the conclusion that a new congregation is indeed what God is leading us toward.

Now that we've made the decision, we can do anything but relax. We are still a long way from figuring out what kind of new congregation we are going to be. This union isn't about blending existing organizations. It is much more about seeking God's leadership and direction towards accomplish God's mission of sharing His ministry of love so that others might also embrace his gift of grace.

I'm not worried about organization. I'm sure organization will work it's out as we discover what will serve God's purpose.

We also did something very bold towards bringing our two congregations together: we will begin worshipping together this summer. Our first service together will be June 4 at 10:30 in the Colonial Avenue Baptist Church Sanctuary.

I know that kind of move must be terribly anxiety-producing for members of both congregations. We've done a great deal of talking about coming together, but it's quite another thing to do something together.

You may wonder "why so soon?" or "why worship first?" One observation of the Exploration Committee was that often new projects get talked to death, but nothing ever happens. Something concrete, something that would pull us together, something that could do in common was needed right away. We felt the most important and obvious move was to begin worshipping together.

After all, if believers can't worship the same God

together, can we do anything else?

The worship of God through Jesus Christ is central to the Christian experience. It's the place where we praise God together, pray together, and proclaim the truth of the living and written Word. These are at the core of our faith and practice.

Obviously, there will be some adjustments. Most congregations seem to land on a "style" that is comfortable for its worshippers. A more important question that begs an answer is: What "kind" of worship service will attract, uplift, and help new worshippers feel like they belong?

No one knows the answer to that question. Worship will be an experiment for us in the days to come. We are going to try some new and different things. Some of those things will fail. Other elements will cause us to wonder why weren't already doing them. We're going to try some things that may fail the first 50 times, yet after some "tinkering" will fit wonderfully.

Most importantly, we're trying to figure out what works best for people that perhaps have never been in church. Our target is what works best for the kingdom.

Please be patient. If you didn't like something about worship one week, it will likely be different the following week, and the next week, and the next week. If you have some constructive suggestions that will fit the criteria "Will it attract, uplift, and help new worshippers feel like they belong," by all means share it with a worship leader.

If you're feeling a bit unsettled, just remember that God led the Children of Israel around in the desert for 40 years before God allowed them to inhabit the Promised Land. I don't think it will take us 40 years, but it should remind us that God has an agenda that may not agree with ours – but we are looking.

So, here we go...together! Hold on tight! I'm expecting an exciting journey!

Your Pastor and Fellow Traveler,
Steven W. Pollard



Annual Conference

Annual Church In Conference

Our members came together for our annual Church In Conference on 21st.

Attendees heard updates on church business items and voted to approve the slate of those who will serve with the

Fellowship of Deacons, Church Council, and Administrative Committees for the 2023-2024 church year. There was also a vote on the recommendation to move forward with a merger between Calvary Baptist Church and Colonial Avenue Baptist Church to join together as a new church. The vote on this recommendation was unanimous that we move forward with the merger.

A summary of the presentations is available in the Book of Reports which is available upon request as well as on the church website at:

<http://www.calvaryroanoke.org/wp/annual-book-of-reports/>

The slate for 2023-20234 Committee members can be found on page four of this document.

Summer Worship

This summer, our worship will be focused on Holy Habits: Faith Practices That Help Us Love God and Our Neighbor, Listen to the Spirit, and Become More Like Jesus. Rev Melissa Scott (pastor of Colonial Avenue Baptist Church), Dr. Steven Pollard (pastor of Calvary Baptist Church), and Rev. Brent Williams (pastor of Colonial Presbyterian Church) will be preaching, so you will hear many voices throughout the summer. Each week, we will focus on a different faith practice: Sabbath, Service, Celebration, Hospitality, Gratitude, Justice and Mercy, Wonder, Prayer, Listening, Remembering, Generosity, and Engaging Scripture. We will also be providing a devotional booklet for you to use during the week as you put these holy habits into to practice.



In Loving Memory

Grace Burton Taylor

Friday, March 23rd, 1928 - Tuesday, May 9th, 2023

<https://memorial.oakeys.com/grace-taylor/5192420/>



Featured Dates

Sunday, June 4th	
Worship	10:30 AM
Wednesday, June 7th	
Brown Bag Bible Study	12:00 PM
Sunday, June 11th	
Worship	10:30 AM
Church Council Meeting	11:30 AM
Sunday, June 18th	
Worship	10:30 AM
Monday - Saturday June 19th - 24th	
"Love Your Neighbor" Local Mission Week	
Wednesday, June 21st	
Brown Bag Bible Study	12:00 PM
Friday, June 23rd	
All Age, Multi-Church Fellowship	5:30 PM
Sunday, June 25th	
Worship	10:30 AM
Wednesday, June 28th	
Brown Bag Bible Study	12:00 PM

Welcome, New Members

We would like to welcome Arnold and Penny Horsley to Calvary! They joined on April 16, 2023 through a transfer of letter from another local church.

“Love Your Neighbor” Local Mission Week, June 19-24

We're joining with other local churches to share God's love right here in Roanoke. The full schedule will be available soon, but here are some of the projects we hope you will be able to help with. Children are welcome to participate, as long as a caregiver is with them. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet in the sanctuary foyer.

- Christian Soldiers Food Pantry: We will be sorting and distributing food, and there may be an opportunity for some landscape work, as well.
- Keystone Community Center: We will be working in the urban garden and helping with other projects around the center.
- Presbyterian Community Center: We will be sorting food donations and helping with other projects.
- Gifts and Cards for Shut-ins: We will be making gift bags and writing notes for our shut-ins and will deliver and visit with them that same day.
- Preparing Lunches for Impact Virginia Mission Team: On Tuesday and Thursday, we will be preparing and delivering lunches for a visiting youth mission team.
- Rummage Sale: During the week, we will be accepting donations, pricing, and setting up for an indoor rummage sale in the fellowship hall. All proceeds will be split between participating churches to be used for missions. We will have set times during the day and in the evening for items to be dropped off (stay tuned for this schedule). For this sale, we will not be accepting clothing items. The sale will be held on Saturday, June 24, from 8-12, and volunteers will be needed that day, as well.

All Age, Multi-church Fellowship

Each month, we will gather with Calvary Baptist, Colonial Presbyterian, and Westhampton Christian Churches for a time of fellowship for all ages.

- Picnic and Praise, Friday, June 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m.: Join us for a picnic dinner in the pavilion at Colonial Presbyterian Church as we celebrate together the ways God has worked during our “Love Your Neighbor” Mission Week.
- Faith and Family Night at the Salem Red Sox, Friday, July 14, 7:00 p.m.: Join us for an evening of fun cheering on the Salem Red Sox. If you sign up in the foyer (or by calling or e-mailing the church office) by July 2, the cost of your general admission ticket is \$11, and that includes a \$3 concession gift card.
- Sundae Fun-day, Sunday, August 27, 3:00 p.m.: We'll have a fun time making ice-cream sundaes and celebrating the ways we have seen God at work this summer.

Summer Brown Bag Bible Study Series

Beginning June 21st we will begin a five-week Aspects of Discipleship

We will explore the hows and whys of being Jesus' disciples. Mary Magdalene is first up as she is instructed to go and tell. Next, our ministry with people's needs as Jesus' responded to the needs of others. Third, we'll study taking up the ministry of healing. In the last lesson, dealing with times of struggle in life

The following study will be a five-part series on Tests, Trials, and Opportunities. In this unit, we will read about tests, trials, and opportunities that shaped Abraham, his family, and their faith.



2023-2024 Officer, Council and Administrative Committee Members



Many thanks to those who have served on our church committees during this church year! Your dedication and work is much appreciated!!!

The following slate for 2023-2024 Committee members was presented and unanimously approved at the May 21st Church in Conference. While these individuals were elected to serve in an official capacity, everyone in our church family is encouraged to participate in the work of these church teams! Please let us know where you would like to serve!

Pastor Dr. Steven W. Pollard	Interim Music Director Robert McKinney	Member Involvement Vilas Secrist
Trustees Paul V. Howell Evelyn Lewis Herb McBride John Urquhart	Clerk Lisa Baker	Personnel Kathy Kinsey Mary Beth Nash Paul V. Howell Chair of Deacons Chair of Stewardship and Planned Giving
	Member At-Large Representative to Church Council Cara Sutherland	
Music & Worship Robert McKinney Kevin Carter	Stewardship and Planned Giving Belinda Denson David Kinsey Herb McBride Don Richardson Cara Sutherland	Accompanist William Lininger
Missions Evelyn Townsend Circle	Church Council Chair Joyce Waugh	Social Janice Deyerle

Ushers and Welcoming

Lisa Baker	Becky Beard	Bobbie Hawkins	Kathy Kinsey
Neal Kinsey	Ray Templin	Cara Sutherland	John Urquhart
Gordon Williams			

Deacons

Becky Beard	Janice Deyerle	Kathy Kinsey	Neal Kinsey
Glenda Pollard	Ellen Scott	Susan Snyder	Ray Templin
John Urquhart			

Please Note: All committees should meet to elect their chair before the July 1st start of the new church year.

June Serving Schedule

June 4

Ushers

Neal Kinsey

Deacons

Janice Deyerle, Glenda Pollard, Ray Templin

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Kathy Kinsey

June 11

Ushers

Lisa Baker

Deacons

Neal Kinsey

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Ray Templin

June 18

Ushers

Gordon Williams

Deacons

John Urquhart

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Bobbie Hawkins

June 25

Ushers

Bobbie Hawkins

Deacons

Susan Snyder

Scripture and Offertory Prayer: Glenda Pollard



BIRTHDAYS

06/08 – Robert McKinney

06/20 – Dolores Laprad

06/22 – David Seidel

06/23 – Jim Bryant, Arnold Horsley, Angela Moresco, Steve Pollard, Jane Price,

06/25 – Buddy Garrett, Kathy Martin

06/30 – Jason Bryant

Calvary Baptist Church
PO Box 12226
Roanoke, VA 24023

Church Staff
Dr. Steven W. Pollard, Pastor
Debbie Foutz, Office Manager

540-344-9237
info@calvaryroanoke.org
www.calvaryroanoke.org