

CALVARY CURRENT

Special Edition for June 1 - 30



Calvary gives thanks to our fathers and grandfathers for their faithfulness!

CHURCH NEWS

- 1. In-person Worship & Ministries:** Calvary is following the guideline of our Bishop and the Cabinet of WNCCL on the “in-person” worship and ministries. At this time, Calvary may extend our virtual service to the month of July.
- 2. Calvary Virtual Church on Sundays 11am (opening from 10:30am)**
By electronics: CalvaryUMCnc.org -> Click Virtual Church Info under Worship
By phones: Call at 301-715-8592 and enter Meeting ID: 854 324 5409#
We are using “zoom” for virtual worship service, and you are invited to join us!
- 3. Congratulations** to Megan Mills who graduated from South Iredell High School with summa cum laude. Megan will go to UNC at Chapel Hill this fall.
- 4. Special Prayers**
For the family of Donnie Smith who was received into God’s eternal home. A graveside service will be held on June 24, 1pm at Sharon Memorial Park.
For patients, those who have lost their loved ones, lost jobs, closed businesses, and work in tough conditions under the pandemic, medical professionals, and leaders.
For justice and equity among God’s people in our nation
- 5. Let’s be a generous & cheerful giver!**
 - Mail your offerings to Calvary UMC: 512 West Blvd. Charlotte, NC 28203
 - Use “bill pays” at your online banking or use “Conference Online Giving” at <https://www.wnccumc.org/online-donations-to-churches> (Calvary UMC, Charlotte / Metro District / Pastor Jae Lee / Your email address)
 - Special offerings:
In memory of Tom Hoover and Bill Pressley on Father’s Day and Joshua Holden Pressley’s 22nd birthday by Pat and Herb Tesh.
In memory of Pierce R. and Myrtle Beatty Conrad, parents of Louise Hutchinson by the Orion and Louise Hutchinson Giving Fund.
- 6. Upper Rooms** for July and August are available for your daily devotion in front of church office. If you cannot pick it up at church, please let Pastor Jae know.

The ELEVEN DISCIPLES (Matthew 28:16-20)

Sermon on June 7th by Rev. Jae Lee

During the Wednesday Bible Study last year, we practiced “Lectio Divina” (means “divine reading”). Lectio Divina has three reading steps: In the first reading of the given text, let the words of the Lord come to us, wash over us, and go away. From the second reading, we focus on one word or phrase that stands out in our heart. Finally, after the third reading, we prayerfully listen to God and seek what God wants us to do through the word or phrase.

When I read the ending part of Matthew 28 by practicing a Lectio Divina, the word, “eleven” was brought up in my heart. As we know, in the Bible, “twelve” is a very meaningful number because it signifies the twelve tribes of Israel. Twelve is the number of “completion and perfection.” With the betrayal of Judas Iscariot, however, there were only eleven disciples when Jesus commissioned them before his ascension. Therefore, the number “eleven” may represent human brokenness, imperfection, betrayal, pain, and incompleteness.

In this sense, the number “eleven” can be connected to our current state of America which is full of pain, distrust, inequality, and brokenness with the coronavirus and racism issues. From our current situation, I see a truth that without others, without Black, without Native Americans, without Asians, without White, without Hispanic, without children, without the elderly, without the disabled, without strangers, without friends, without immigrants, America cannot be a whole and healthy nation. In other words, without others who are all people beyond myself, my life cannot be fully complete and meaningful. The “eleven” disciples remind us of how confused and broken America is today.

However, there was no other way for the eleven disciples but to continue the ministries of Jesus Christ. After the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the eleven disciples went to Galilee and were commissioned by Jesus to carry out God’s works as who they were as eleven! They are the ones who established a radical Christian movement and it became a church, the body of Jesus Christ. The imperfect and broken eleven disciples went to the villages and cities, taught the Word of God, healed the sick, baptized others, and made new disciples. It was the eleven disciples out of their brokenness who made 30 disciples, 60, 100, and much more!

Dear Church, we may be like the eleven disciples who remain on earth with our own brokenness, pain, and vulnerabilities. At the same time, we are the hope for God’s church in this very challenging time. We are commissioned to go, make disciples, baptize them, and teach the Word of God with the help of the Holy Spirit as the eleven disciples did. Our task seems to be a daunting job in this ever-changing world.

However, we are not alone. “Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20b). We clearly understand that the eleven disciples always worked together with the Spirit of God. Even in our pain land brokenness, we do not simply mourn for our current circumstances,

but work together to become a changing agent for a brighter future. Dear church, like the eleven disciples, let's boldly go and make disciples in the presence of Jesus Christ!

In the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

BLESSING CABINET

By Brenda Alexander, Chair of Outreach Team



Calvary and Outreach Team appreciate Wade Cobb volunteering to build the Blessing Cabinet. Brenda Alexander and Earl Beckham with Pastor Jae met on June 16th and decided a place to put the Blessing Cabinet. Unlike other food pantry ministries, there are no forms to complete, no verifications, and no judgments to make with Blessing Cabinet. Brenda will stock the cabinet with various types of food and check it throughout the week and replenish as needed. The Blessing Cabinet will be available 24/7. Food from our congregation or outside our church will be welcomed, but the expiration date must be at least a year out. Monetary donations to the Blessing Cabinet can be made via payable check to Calvary UMC and on the memo line, you may write "Blessing Cabinet." Let us be a blessing to our needy neighbors!

COMMUNITY YARD SALE FOR CALVARY

Patty Pressley & Julie Gray – Coordinators for Community Yard Sale



Our "Community Yard Sale" will be on July 18. Our rain plan will be July 25. Collecting of items will be until the week of. Everything is welcome for donations except for books. We have a ton of those already! Please feel free to give Julie or Patty a call to schedule a time to drop off your items. We are looking to have it between 8 AM and 12 PM. After that we will have a charity come to collect the leftovers and take them away. As always we will be looking for volunteers to assist us during the yard sale. Depending on the Covid-19, we are hoping to have a bake sale as well as selling hotdogs and chips. We are very excited and extremely thankful for all of the donations we have received. The more we get, the more we sell, the more we can benefit our wonderful Church! Thank you all again!