

# Crosspoints

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
MAY 2018



**CALVARY**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

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Asheville, NC 28806

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Custodian

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

In a recent bulletin note, I talked briefly about grief and how important it is for us to acknowledge it honestly and to help one another with it compassionately. I've continued to think about our losses and how we respond to them.

Grief is, to say the least, complex and difficult.

People who are dealing with difficult losses often feel disoriented and confused. Occasionally, they find themselves to be unusually forgetful, or have difficulty concentrating, or deal with significantly heightened anxiety. When their grief is most intense, folks sometimes tell me that they worry that they are "going crazy." Those feelings of disorientation mean that it's important for grieving people—and grieving communities—to take time to heal, to gather wisdom, and to regain a sense of equilibrium before making significant decisions.

Grief keeps close company with other strong emotions. For instance, we often feel, simultaneously, grief and gratitude: our losses make us sad, but they also remind us how blessed we've been by the lives of the people we have lost.

Grief and anger travel together. It's not at all uncommon for someone's death to cause us to feel a kind of rage at how life's pain and suffering seem so random and unfair.

Grief and faith are close cousins: we release our loved ones into God's good care with both doubt and trust, with uncertainty but also with confidence.

We even feel grief and joy at nearly one and the same time, which is why we say we "laughed until we cried and cried until we laughed." When we grieve, powerful feelings come rushing to the surface, demanding to be faced.

It's crucial, then, as Shakespeare put it, that we "give sorrow words"—that we say honestly how we feel. We need to voice our feelings to each other, and, especially, to God.

Sometimes we're reluctant to be honest with God about what is really in our hearts. We fear that there is something "wrong" with our feelings of hurt, disappointment, and anger; God is not surprised by what we feel. God understands and can handle our questions, frustrations, and doubts. We can be entirely candid with God. We don't have to dress up our feelings in Sunday slogans or disguise them in polite clichés.

Grief can, if will let it, become our teacher, reminding us about the fragility and strength of the human spirit, the wisdom of our being tender and patient with each other, the value of genuine and mutual friendship, the healing power of honest prayer, the crucial significance of shared worship, and, most of all, the faithfulness and tenderness of God.

*Grace & Peace, Guy*

## Dates to Remember

Wednesday, May 2

6:00 Prayer Service & Sack Dinner

Saturday, May 5

10-2:00 CEC Items Sale

Sunday, May 6

“The Jesus Way: Celebrating”  
Guy Sayles

Special Leadership Team Mtg.

Tuesday, May 8

6:30 Deacon Meeting

Mother's Day Sunday, May 13

“The Jesus Way: Praying”  
Guy Sayles

Saturday, May 19

10:00 Women's Breakfast @  
Happy Hill Restaurant

Sunday, May 20

David Rayburn,  
Guest Preacher

Monday, May 21

6:00 Leadership Team Meeting @  
Doyle & Melody's home

Sunday, May 27

“Jesus Came to Give Us Life”  
Guy Sayles

**Wednesdays at 7:15:**  
Choir Rehearsal

## ABCCM PANTRY NEEDS

The cabinets are getting bare at the 4 ABCCM Crisis Ministries. Their food needs are: Canned meats, Self-rising Flour, Spaghetti, Vegetable Oil, Margarine, Canned fruit juices, Jelly, Peanut butter, Quick grits, Hot & cold cereals, and Powdered milk. See Michelle Mattox for details.

## SALE OF CEC ITEMS

We will be selling items left in the CEC on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. We will need help so please sign up for a shift: 10-12 or 12-2. See Dan Bradshaw for details.

## SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

The committee held its first meeting on Thursday, April 12, 2018. The goal of this group is to identify possible risks for church members, develop plans to deal with incidents and educate the congregation on what to do when an incident occurs. The group discussed the most likely type of incidents that might occur at Calvary Baptist Church including the fact that various entrances to the building are left unlocked and un-monitored during worship services as well as medical emergencies. A second meeting will take place on May 17, 2018.

## LEADERSHIP TEAM MARCH MINUTES

The meeting was opened with a devotional given by Sam Hocking. We prayed for each other and the minutes were approved with one correction.

The Treasurer's report was given by Lennie Thornton requesting that an account be set up for repairs to the church buildings. There is currently \$1500 that could be used to start this fund. Aaron, Vicki and Frank will be working shorter hours.

The Committee reports: Wilma Lindsey would like the memorial set up for George of \$580 to be donated. We were reminded that the front entrance has no heat or sound, this will be checked to make some improvements to this area. Visitor cards are no longer being handed out since there is a section in the bulletin for this. We were asked to please remind people to pray. Dan Bradshaw has been working with Azalea Mtn. School on the rental of the CEC area. They are looking to start in May. The bill for the boiler repairs is being paid in monthly payments. There are additional repairs needed (clean the steam valve & hot surfaces, check all safety items, etc.) The Educational building roof is leaking and needs to be repaired. We need to check on the Baker Street parking area as some no parking signs have appeared. The Benevolence Committee has requested some rearranging in the Café area and a volunteer has offered to pay for the expense of moving the refrigerator. The metal chairs will either be sold for scrap metal or sold to whoever may want them. Frank will handle this. The website and phone needs to be updated.

The Nicaragua team will need to be transported to Atlanta and they will need to use the best of the 2 vans. Parking in Atlanta has been taken care of.

Bruce Farlow stated that there was no deacons report and Guy Sayles would like to set up another training session for the LT and Deacons. We would be looking at the vision for the church and other things like pastoral care. Bruce Farlow closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully,  
Jennie Dalton, Church Clerk

## Announcements

**Prayer Service & Sack Dinner:**  
We will be meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 in the Coffee House.

**Women's Breakfast:** We will meet on May 19<sup>th</sup> at Happy Hill Restaurant from 10:00-noon.

**Special Called Leadership Team Meeting:** Following worship on Sunday, May 6 to discuss the lease with Azalea Mtn School.

**The May Leadership Team Meeting has been changed:**  
We will be meeting on Monday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at the home of Doyle & Melody Bell at 6:00 PM.

## BUILD A PERSONAL HYGIENE KIT FOR MISSIONS

We need 50 personal hygiene kits to take on our Mission Trip to Nicaragua. This is a good mission project for a Sunday Class, Mission group or individual who wants to be a part of this mission effort. The kit should contain the following items in a medium size plastic bag: Wash cloth, Bar of soap, Tooth brush, Tooth paste, Comb.

We need school supply kits for 110 children: Pencils, (2 per child), notebook paper, (20 sheets per child rolled with a rubber band), erasers, pencil sharpeners, ruler.

Place your kits in the tote located in the Café Area. If you have questions, contact Dan Bradshaw 299-8244.