



the *Calvary Caller*

Volume 48

January 2024

Number 1

Possibilities

Happy New Year! It seems like a month ago when I was writing this and trying to explain that we would have to get used to writing 2023 on our checks and letters. As fast as last year went by, I think we can better understand what James says in chapter 4:13-14, "Come now, you who say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit'; whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away." Life goes by too fast, so let us maximize the time we have this year. I highlighted and underlined let us for a reason. The passages of Scripture found in the book of Hebrews are admonishing God's people to move forward in Christ. There is no better way to start this new year off than with that mentality and resolve. If you find yourself burdened with the trials of life and overwhelmed, I want to admonish you to hear the Word of the Lord.

What are the possibilities for us as a church if we follow the let us passages. Someone has said that this is the garden salad (lettuce) messages of Hebrews. As we read these passages, it may prompt you to do a deeper dive into all the chapters and verses. That would be a good thing-to go as far as you can in understanding all the admonishment that God has given for His people. So, let us begin with a simple reading of the text starting with these verses:

Hebrews 4:1, "Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it."

Hebrews 4:11, "Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience."

Hebrews 4:14-16, "Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heav-

ens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."

Hebrews 6:1, "Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God."

Hebrews 10:22-25, "let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. 24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, 25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the

more as you see the Day approaching."

Hebrews 12:1-3, "Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 13:15-16, "Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name. 16 But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased."



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These "let us" passages in Hebrews are for our admonishment to run a good race. What will this year be like if we apply them in the pursuit of following the Lamb? May God richly bless you, open doors for

you and, let us labor together in the unity of the Gospel as we trust our Lord for a fruitful year.

Pastor David



Greetings, Calvary family!

It's time for another update from the student ministry.

On Sunday mornings, we're still studying the Christian Life. We've covered creation commands, the 10 commandments, and Exodus commands. Now we're studying Leviticus commands. One thing that has stood out is that the Christian life isn't just individual and private but also public and social.

On Sunday evenings, we're still working our way through Hebrews. We're in Chapter 11, which is the famous faith chapter. May God grant all of them saving faith in Jesus.

On Wednesday evenings, we're still covering the Book of Ezra. We've made it to Chapter 4, which is about the enemies of Israel across multiple generations. God's people will always have enemies, but with God, we can overcome all of them. May God allow Christianity to be rebuilt in our nation in spite of our many enemies.

In December, we had a Christmas party, which included White Elephant, Bingo, and Christmas trivia.

It was a lot of fun. We also went ice skating. I think we all performed better this year than last year. And I am thankful to report that I didn't fall once. We also had a New Year's party, which led all the way into the new year. I think we all had a blast, whether it was through ping pong, pickleball, karaoke, or video games. But we also started the night with worship through song, and we started the new year with worship through the Word. We read three passages that mentioned the first month or the first day of the first month. Interestingly, they all had a background of judgment, but they were also about rebuilding out of judgment. And they started with worship. Likewise, let's start this new year with a refocus on the biblical worship of God. Maybe God will deliver us this year from the past few years of judgment upon our nation.

In January, we've planned a ping pong tournament for Jan 20th. Sign-up sheets are at the two main entrances of the church. If you plan on coming, please put your names down for the sake of food numbers. We've also planned a Youth Council meeting for Jan 21st. We've also planned a snow tubing event for Jan 28th.

Christain



Happy New Year! My prayer for every person that reads this article is for 2024 to be your best growth year ever in scripture knowledge. Begin by applying this attitude found in Philippians 3:13, "Brethren, I don't count myself to have apprehended; but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." Don't let yesterday ruin today or your tomorrow. Let scripture determine who and what you believe. People today are fearful over the conditions in our world. Wars and rogue nations going nuclear are legitimate concerns...but The Book shows us this, man cannot destroy God's Earth. Why? God has a biblical future for this planet. So, Who will you believe? People have a hard time trusting what they don't know. I say, let us become more sure of who and what we know. Start now!

Match the following verses with the correct refer-

ence below:

1. Heaven is my throne and earth my footstool.
2. For I know the thoughts I think toward you.
3. Mene, mene, tekel, upharsin.
4. They will look on Me whom they pierced.
5. All authority is given to Me in heaven and on earth.
6. "Lazarus come forth!"
7. Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, unto the uttermost.
8. The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
9. Many are called but few are chosen.
10. But go rather to the lost sheep of Israel's house.
11. Call his name Lo-Ammi
12. You were the anointed cherub who covers...
13. Feed my sheep.

Ezekial 28	Matthew 10	Hosea 1
Matthew 22	John 1	John 21
Daniel 5	John 11	Matthew 28
Isaiah 66	Zechariah 12	Jeremiah 29
Acts 1		



Dearest Church Family,

As we look forward to a new year full of opportunities, I want us to spend time in reflection. In 2023, God blessed us in so many ways. God provided a new van for transportation. God

allowed us to gather together for numerous church fellowships and community church services. God provided in abundance for the Calvary Cares Ministry. God allowed us to use the CLC to host many events and activities. We are thankful for His protection and provision. We are also thankful for the lives He has saved

and hearts He has changed. We give God all the glory, honor and praise for all the good He has done!

God is always at work, and He will continue working throughout 2024. May we humbly bow before our Risen Lord and go where he leads us. May we vow to be more loving, joyous, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled. May we seek Jesus with all of our hearts. Lastly, "But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen." 2 Peter 3:18

We look forward to a great 2024,

Alicia Smith, Children's Director

Dear Church Family,



The Calvary Cares Mission Team wanted to give an update on the progress the mission has made during the last year. At this time last year, we had

one freezer and we were serving around 50 people during the Tuesday food give away days. We open the mission at 12:00 on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. We have served a total of 1296 households from January through November of this year. Not only are people able to obtain much needed food and clothing, but they are also given the Word of God and many people have asked for individual prayer. Someone is always available to give the gospel and pray with people.

We give away food two days a month, serving anywhere from 52 to 94 households on each of those days. Additionally, we have acquired three more freezers; two from Second Harvest and the remaining two from other sources. We hope to acquire a couple more freezers to take care of the bountiful blessings the Lord Jesus Christ has given us. He has blessed the mission beyond anything we could have imagined. We pick up free food from Walmart on Wednesday and Friday mornings and from Food City on Friday mornings. We receive frozen foods, such as meat, bread, pizzas, pastries, frozen vegetables, etc. We also receive, bread, dairy products such as yogurt, milk, juice, etc., and produce. This has filled our freezers/refrigerators to capacity almost every week. The people are very excited to obtain these items that they normally would be unable to purchase. We also receive Christmas food boxes from Food Lion. The boxes contain canned goods, mac and cheese and rice. We had enough boxes last year to last for six months.

When we receive items such as produce, some breads and items that we are unable to keep over to the food giveaway day, we take these items to the women's jail. The lady inmates are so very appreciative of these items which they put to good use.

During the food giveaway days, the Salvation Army attends to help people obtain help with services such as electric bills, or housing. They also help with other needed requests as they are able. We have a pretty large clothes closet consisting of men, women, and children's clothing items. These items are much needed by the people com-

ing to obtain food and we give away many clothes during the food days.

Pastor David and some other people have made home visits to the elderly and other people who may not be able to pick up food for themselves. Additionally, there have been many people call the Church office in dire need of food. Someone from the mission gathers the food bags for these people and takes it to their homes.

It is truly a blessing to be a part of this mission and all of us are in awe at what the Lord has done. We have acquired many partners in this endeavor. I previously named Wal Mart and Food City, but I want to mention others who have contributed. I hope to not leave anyone out, but I want to mention the following businesses who have donated items, money, or time: Calvary Baptist Church, Food Lion, the Post Office, Second Harvest, Farm Bureau, Tsubaki Nakashima (formerly N and N), Ninth Street Baptist Church, Valley Forge Auction, CDJR of Elizabethton. In addition to businesses, we have had many individual people from the Church and community who have made monetary donations.

We are so very thankful for all the food and clothing donated by the people of our Church. Please don't forget about us as we are always in need of food items. Even though we get the free food from businesses, we do not get canned goods so we need your donations. The donations are picked up on Monday morning and taken to the mission each week. Everyone has been very generous and we hope you all will continue to donate.

Please continue to pray for the mission. It is a blessing to serve in this capacity and many people have written thank you notes, and/or verbally thanked us. It is not that we need to be thanked, but it does let us know that people appreciate and need the services. We started out very small and have grown beyond what anyone would have thought. The Lord has blessed our small endeavors and we are here to serve Him, reaching many needy people within our county. We have a wonderful Calvary Cares Mission Team working diligently and cohesively to provide for the needy people of our community. If you are interested in serving in some capacity, please contact the Pastor or a member of the team. Thank you again for all your prayers and donations. Come visit.

The Calvary Cares Mission Team



Happy Birthday



January

1 Patti Baker, 2 Anna Pratt, Betty Peterson, Issac Gillis, 3 Bob Thompson, Brian Gillis, 6 Timothy Graham, 7 Brad Peacock, 9 Katlyn Higgins, 14 Vicki L. Pate, 17 Munro Ricker, 18 Casey Banks, Teresa Congdon, 19 Steve Graham, Betty Frye, Gloria Casteel, 22 Connie Buchanan, Allen Rogers, 25 Mia Stack, Sisa Watkins, Fanny Williams, 26 Stephanie Rainey, Trent Treadway, 28 Linda Bennett, 29 Betty Miller, Terry Rigler, 30 Rebekah Edens, 31 Miranda Griffith

Memorial & Honorarium Offerings

In Memory of

Gertrude Street
by D.A.R.
to Calvary Cares
by Lynn & Larry Gaddy

Glen & Edna Davis
Gary Davis
by Diana Davis
to Consolidated Missions


Bernie Cole
Reece Harris
by Jo Ann Cole
to Calvary Cares



Services are broadcast on Facebook Live

Connect with us online

Website - <https://calvaryerwin.org>
Email - calvaryerwintn@gmail.com

 Calvary Baptist Church of Erwin Tn
Sun. Service is live on Facebook 10 am

 Calvary Baptist of Erwin Tn

 @CalvryErwin



Service times at
Calvary

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
6:00 p.m.

Sunday School
Morning Worship
Evening Worship
Youth Bible Study
Calvary Kids

WEDNESDAY

5:30 p.m.
6:00 p.m.
7:00 p.m.

Awana
Youth & Adult
Bible Study
Choir Practice

THE CALVARY CALLER published monthly (except July and December)

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