



the Calvary Caller

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Our Living Hope

The month of March is as beautiful as it is dangerous. The flowers have already started pushing their way through the cold dead ground. Everyone who has lived in East Tennessee for any length can testify to deadly frosts in March and into late April. In fact, the forecast for the last frost this year is April 30th according to The Old Farmer's Almanac. There is nothing quite as disappointing as seeing what looks like a hardy growth of tomato plants cut down by the bite of a killing frost. However, this article is not about the beauty and dangers of planting too soon. It is about Resurrection Sunday coming on the last day of this month. The glorious, good news is there was nothing that could hold our Savior in the grave. We have hope because He is alive! Paul tells us in Romans 8:19 the following, "For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now." With the fall of man in the garden the whole universe was plunged into chaos.



But chaos is not the final word- Jesus is. With resurrection hope, someday all things will be made new. Until then, we wait in hope, we share the Gospel in hope, and we know that as John wrote in Revelation 21:4, "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." Randy Alcorn helps us understand the strain we live in when he says, "Do you ever sense creation's restlessness? Do you hear groaning in the cold night wind? Do you feel the forests' loneliness, the oceans' agitation? Do you hear longing in the cries of the whales? Do you see blood and pain in the eyes of wild animals, or the mixture of pleasure and pain in the eyes of your pets? Despite vestiges of beauty and joy, something on this earth is terribly wrong... the creation hopes for, even anticipates, resurrection." How thankful we should be as God's people knowing that we wait not in vain. Christ Jesus our Lord has risen; He is alive forever more!

Dear Calvary Baptist Church, beloved of God, listen to the writer to the Hebrews when he says in chapter 10:35-39, "Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: 'For yet a little while, and He who is coming will come and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith; but if anyone draws back, My soul has no pleasure in him.' But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul." What an encouraging Word from the Lord! He knows that we are frail and struggle to believe. This is one of the reasons we are going through the Gospel of John, so that our faith will be built up in who He truly is. We believe, but may God help us in our unbelief. The trials of life is for the strengthening of our faith. God wants us to remember the glorious truth that saved us. It is the same glorious truth that sustains us. Lord willing, we will have a baptismal service.

Nathanael Crutchfield has received the Lord and desires to follow Him with his testimony from the baptistry. Please be in prayer for him as well as others who may be in the valley of decision. Baptism and Communion on Resurrection Sunday- both of these ordinances point us to our hope in our living Savior. How thankful we are that the angel said, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead." May the Lord bless you as you continue to live your life by faith in the Son of God who is alive for evermore! He is risen! He is risen indeed!

Pastor David



"I-zai-ah." Does anybody remember a certain South African preacherman who pronounced Isaiah so distinctly? Isaiah was John Kuhne's book of choice, teaching at both YWAM conferences in Kenya and Ukraine. I thank God for the opportunity to get a taste of taking the scriptures to another culture. Wonderful, enlightening, vivid memories are mine forever as our life stories (John & Curtis) intertwined according to God's plan. HE is amazing!

John's teaching on Isaiah caught my attention then and has led me to focus on Isaiah now, primarily chapter 61. Starting verse one we find the Trinity of God expressed in the pronouns. Next, we understand the title "LORD" to be written in all capital letters means that "Yahweh" is anointing His Messiah. That messiah will preach Good News to the humble. Through miracles and healings He will lift up the face of those who are down trodden giving new hope. "Preaching liberty to captives" and

"the opening of the prison to them that are bound" can be interpreted as Messiah offering salvation by grace through faith and also Paul's teaching in Ephesians 4:8-10 and Psalms 68:18 where Messiah will take ownership of all souls in Abraham's bosom.

And then comes verse 2. Jesus reads the first line of verse two in the synagogue in Nazareth and stops. He hands the scroll back, sits down, in Luke 4:21 he said, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." By choosing not to read the rest of the verse, He was leaving out the day of vengeance. This is one of those verses in scripture where rightly dividing the Word is necessary. Compressed in verse two we perceive the first and the second coming of Messiah. The year of God's favor is when God became man to provide a way for believers to become acceptable in God's holy presence. The day of vengeance is known as "Jacob's Trouble." A time when God pours out His wrath on Israel and the Kingdom of anti-Christ. Over 2,000 years has Messiah been patiently speaking favor and not

(continued on page 3)

wrath. When trouble comes Israel will experience fiery trials for 3 1/2 years, then verse three God will give them beauty for ashes at His Second Coming. Romans 11:25-27 reveals the secret future of Israel. When God is finished calling gentiles, "all Israel shall be saved." Also, the converted nation shall be planted on this earth to become trees of

righteousness for God's glory. Isaiah 65:8-9 says the Jewish people will flourish in their own land. In that Kingdom, God will give them double blessing. Thanks John and Jesus for Isaiah.

Curtis



Church Family,

February flew by. The kids said they enjoyed the parent's night out. I think the

adults enjoyed the Valentine's Meal. Now, we are all looking forward to a Family Bowling Event on March 1st from 5-7pm. The cost is \$5 and we will meet at Holiday Lanes.

Activities for the summer are being planned. Vacation Bible School is set for June 9-14th. Fun in the Sun kids' camp is scheduled for June 18th-21st. We are continuing our study of Answers In Genesis on Sunday mornings, Bible Drill on Sunday evenings, and AWANA on Wednesdays. The children are learning and retaining so much! We are very proud of them! The chil-

dren's church drill must be completed by March 24th so we are looking forward to supporting the children at that event. The Associational Bible Drill will be on April 9th at 6pm at Trinity for anyone that wants to attend.

Thank you to all who help with the children's department! We still need volunteers. If God has placed it in your heart to help with the children, please let me know. We have hope because of Jesus! I will leave you with this verse from John 11:25-26, "Jesus said to her, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?'"

Blessings to you all,
Alicia Smith



Please be in prayer concerning the selection of our next youth pastor and the team that will seek him out. Pray for Sam Dalton as he fulfills the role of interim youth pastor.

The Student Ministry will be going to the **Knoxville Ice Bears Hockey game**, Sunday, March 24. The cost will be \$7.00 for youth, and \$17.00 for all others who want to go. **Deadline for registration is March 3rd.** See Sam Dalton for details

He is Risen



Happy Birthday



March

Caroline Podvin, 5 Darren Ricker, 6 Juanita Engle, 7 Merle Fain,
9 Logan Rice, 12 Dianne Davison, Raben Reed, Cheri Smart,
16 Pam Amos, 18 Blake Bennett, 20 Russell Miller, Janna
Crutchfield, 21 Leonard Bowman 22 Jane Burgner, David White,
Sam Dalton, 24 Steve Blankenship, 25 Meredith Stack, Carol
Whaley, Adam White, 27 Jason Podvin, 28 Draven Ricker,
29 Linda Treadway

Memorial & Honorarium Offerings

In Memory of

Jacqueline Graham
(Mother of Steve Graham)
by Dorcas/Homemakers S.S. Class
to Consolidated Missions



Services are broadcast on Facebook Live

Connect with us online

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

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