

FAMILY MINISTRY BANQUET

AUGUST 12TH AT 6:00 PM

PRESCHOOL

KIDS

Calvary
STUDENTS

Hear from Joyce, Zach, and Reagan about how Calvary wants to partner with your family this upcoming year.

If you need childcare for ages 6 weeks - kindergarten, rsvp to brooke@calvarydothan.com.

LIFE GROUP PROMOTION SUNDAY AUGUST 12

Preschoolers through Students will advance to their new Life Group categorized by ages/grades. For more information, contact the church office.

Ministry Staff

Paul Thompson	Senior Pastor
Charles Uptain	Executive Pastor
Dan Tankersley	Discipleship
Matthew Dorsey	Worship
Joyce Alexander	Preschool
Zach Daniels	Children
Reagan Farris	Student Interim
Greg Pendergrass	Community/ROC

Ministry Assistants

Caren Coleson	Pastoral
Rebekah McLure	Music
Carol Morris	Executive Assistant
Anne Register	Community/Recreation
Emily Shiver	Senior Adults
Brooke Stickle	Family Ministries
Angie Tice	Adults/Outreach

Support Staff

Nolan Dykes	Music Assistant
Mark Shiver	Facilities Manager

Weekday Ministry

Michelle Beasley	Director
Nickie Smith	Receptionist

For the Record For July, 2018

Average Attendance:

10:30 Worship	633
6:00 Worship.....	303
Life Groups	525
Mission Church.....	134
Nursing Homes.....	76
Outreach Bible Study.....	12

Total Giving:

General Fund.....	\$1,437,643.81
Y-T-D Required	\$1,515,000.00

Sermon Schedule

Wednesday, August 1

6:00 pm - Sanctuary

Major Lessons from Minor Prophets -
Obadiah
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, August 5

10:30 am - Fellowship Center

Called to Be Saints Together
"A Winning Life"
Message by Reagan Farris

Wednesday, August 8

6:00 pm - Sanctuary

Major Lessons from Minor Prophets
- Joel
Message by Pastor Paul

Sunday, August 12

10:30 am - Fellowship Center

Called to Be Saints Together
"Example or Experience?"
Message by Paul Thompson

Wednesday, August 15

6:00 pm - Sanctuary

Major Lessons from Minor Prophets -
Joel
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, August 19

10:30 am - Fellowship Center

Called to Be Saints Together
"You Can't Sit At 2 Tables"
Message by Paul Thompson

Wednesday, August 22

6:00 pm - Sanctuary

Major Lessons from Minor Prophets
- Micah
Message by Paul Thompson

Sunday, August 26

10:30 am - Fellowship Center

Called to Be Saints Together
"The Purpose of Everything"
Message by Paul Thompson

Wednesday, August 29

6:00 pm - Sanctuary

Major Lessons from Minor Prophets
- Micah
Message by Paul Thompson

From Our Senior Pastor

One of our faithful longtime church members came up to me the other day to tell me something that she said, "made her sad about her church". Now, I don't like bad news any more than anyone else, but when someone you respect tells you that, you listen, right?

She went on to tell me about some friends that were in town to visit them who were going to meet up at Calvary for worship on Sunday. But their experience with us was not such a good one.

Why?

No one greeted them. No one went out of their way to say, "Hi, I'm so-and-so, etc." or, "Hi! So glad you came to worship with us today", etc. No one welcomed them. And so their first (and maybe only) perception of Calvary was that we are not a friendly church.

Now some of you reading this may be quick to disagree (and some may agree – I don't know). You may say, "That's not a fair assessment", or "I think we are a friendly church!"

But what if we are not as friendly as we think we are?

In his excellent little book, *Becoming a Welcoming Church*, Thom Rainer (President of Lifeway) writes,

Most church members have forgotten what it's like to be a first-time guest. They now have established relationships in the church. They love their church. Their biases tell them their church is great.

But many church members and leaders are wrong. When we asked hundreds of guests about their experiences visiting churches, it was not a pretty picture. We asked specifically why they did not return to a particular church. Here were their top ten responses:

- 1. The stand-and-greet time was unfriendly and awkward. (Either they were totally ignored, or they were inundated with what they perceived were superficial greetings.)*
- 2. Unfriendly church members. (Most church members don't speak to guests because they don't know them. And church members usually retreat to the comfort of the "holy huddles" of the people they do know.)*
- 3. Unsafe and unclean children's areas. (If the church does not have clear safety and security procedures along with clean and sanitary areas, young families will not return.)*
- 4. No place to get information on the church. (Guests are accustomed to looking for a central and manned welcome and information center.)*
- 5. Bad church website. (Nearly all guests check the church's website before attending a worship service ... It is the new front door of the church.)*
- 6. Poor signage. (Guests get frustrated when there is not clear directional signage to parking, worship entrance, children's areas, and others.)*
- 7. Insider church language. (Many guests left thinking that the church spoke in a 'foreign language' filled with acronyms ... 'VBS' anyone?)*
- 8. Boring or bad church services. (This is rather self-explanatory!)*
- 9. Members telling guests they were in the wrong pew or chair. (The most common negative statement guests heard was, "You're in my pew." Unbelievable.)*
- 10. Dirty facilities. (A dirty church communicates to a guest, "We really don't care.")*

Some of the responses above are truthfully not too big of a concern for us – either we are improving or we have long done a pretty good job in those areas. Others are a concern. And fixing them is the responsibility of us all.

Will you take it upon yourself to be as friendly as possible to guests (and to anyone you see – especially those you don't know)? Let's make sure that those who are our guests don't feel like they're crashing a private party, but instead feel like we were hopefully and joyfully awaiting their appearance!

For God's glory, for the good of our city, and for our blessing,

Pastor Paul

Ministry News

Calvary Missions

There are several opportunities for mission trips this Fall. Contact Pastor Charles or Key Mahone for more details.

India – October/November
Guatemala – November 14-20
Argentina – October

Find us online at www.calvarydothan.com & www.facebook.com

Ministry News

Word-filled Women's Ministry

Coffee & Connect | Tuesday, August 21 | 6:30 pm | Parlor

Calvary's Word-filled Women's Ministry invites all women for coffee, dessert, conversation, and connection!

Women's Fall Bible Study | In All Things by Melissa Kruger

Women can choose Tuesday mornings at 9:30 am, beginning September 4 or Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm, beginning September 5. This Bible study of the book of Philippians walks you through the words of the apostle Paul to believers in the early church to discover what he knew about the secret to unshakeable peace--and how his insights can help any woman discover a secure and satisfying contentment no matter what life may bring.

Men's Ministry

Real MoMENTum Men's Conference | August 17-18

The Southeast Alabama Baptist Association is hosting a men's conference at Ridgecrest Baptist Church. The conference will begin at 5 pm on Friday and 8 am on Saturday. Speakers are Crawford Lorritts, Senior Pastor at Fellowship Bible Church and Jeff Kisiah, Founder/Director of Intentional Way. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at the association office or online at sabachurches.com.

Music/Worship Ministry

Adult Choir Resumes August 8

Please see Matthew if you would like to join the adult choir. Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Choir Room.

Community Ministry

Breakfast with Girard Middle School

Calvary will provide and service breakfast to the staff at Girard Middle School on Wednesday, August 1, 7:30-8:00 am. If you can help serve and greet the teachers, please arrive at Girard between 7:00 and 7:15 am.

Landscaping Day at Girard Middle School

On Saturday, August 4, 7am-12noon, we will meet at Girard to trim bushes and put out pine straw. Items to bring are: gloves, wheel barrow, clippers, ladders, rake, etc. If you can help, call Greg at the ROC and let him know what items you can bring.

Preschool Ministry

Parenting Class | Led by Joyce Alexander

The class will meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm, August 15-October 3, in room 202 in the Office Building and is for parents of preschool through high school age kids.

Calvary Kids

Kindergarten Ice Cream Party with Mr. Zach | Friday, August 3

Kids who have completed kindergarten are invited to join Mr. Zach for an ice cream party in the GForce room at 6:30 pm.

First Grade Bible Presentation | Sunday, August 26

Parents, for your child to participate, please register them online at calvarydothan.com/children. A brunch will be served in the Parlor during the 9:15 Life Group hour. Following brunch we will pray and practice for the ceremony.

Senior Adult Ministry

Senior Adult Choir | Wednesdays beginning August 15 | 10:00 am | Choir Room

Senior Adult Monthly Worship | Thursday, August 30 | 10:30 am | Sanctuary

Fall Sunday Worship Schedule

We've had a great Summer at Calvary! Attendance has been up. New folks have joined. Morale and enthusiasm is high. Feedback from guests has been positive. And we have really enjoyed the atmosphere and spirit of coming together as one church family for worship. As we prepare to move into the Fall, the staff and elders have decided to continue to worship together in one service. This is a change from the previously announced return to 2 services on August 12. Over the next several weeks, we will be evaluating attendance trends and patterns as we develop a long-term plan for worship schedule and space. Please continue to invite people to join us at Calvary! Let's continue to grow until no single meeting space on campus will hold us all!

Fall Wednesday Worship Schedule

Wednesday Midweek services will meet in the Sanctuary at 6:00 pm beginning August 1. Pastor Paul will continue his series on Major Lessons from Minor Prophets.



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AUGUST *2018* NEWSLETTER



STAFF ON CALL SCHEDULE

August 4-5
Matthew Dorsey
919-495-9483

August 11-12
Charles Uptain
334-797-7191

August 18-19
Joyce Alexander
334-798-4791

August 25-26
Dan Tankersley
334-655-8765

CALVARY EXTENDS OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

The family of Mike Barr
The family of Donna Sconyers
The family of Marcia Stowers