

ADVENT — ANTICIPATING THE SAVIOR



ON THAT DAY it shall be said to Jerusalem: 'Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.'" *Zephaniah 3:16-17*

ALL THIS TOOK PLACE TO FULFILL what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel' (which means, God with us)." *Matthew 1:22-23*

IN THIS THE LOVE OF GOD was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him." *1 John 4:9*

WORSHIP SERVICES TODAY

8:30 AM Adult Life Groups [ALGs]

9:45 AM **Worship Service**
"A Guilty Verdict"
Romans 3:9-20

9:45 AM Nursery, Preschool, & KidZone

11:15 AM Nursery, Children's Ministry,
Student Ministry, & ALGs

6:00 PM **Advent Service &**
Christmas Tree Lighting

Calvary

Looking UP

Calvary Church Weekly News

CALVARYCHURCH.COM

CHRISTMAS AT CALVARY

Worship & Celebrate

ADVENT SERVICE & TREE LIGHTING TONIGHT at 6:00 PM

Usher in the Christmas season at this evening of worship featuring favorite carols. We'll conclude by lighting the beautiful tree in the Galleria.

"SING! AN IRISH CHRISTMAS" WITH THE GETTYS

Sunday, December 17, at 6:00 PM

Sing! An Irish Christmas with Keith and Kristyn Getty is a Christmas concert celebration with a unique blend of Celtic, bluegrass, Americana, and classical music as well as the choral sounds of the holiday with the Calvary Choirs. Come sing along with Keith and Kristyn for an evening that unites tradition and innovation in a vibrant celebration of the season! **Concert is free**—no tickets or reserved seating. Doors open at 5:00 PM. Invite family and friends! *Childcare to age 4.*

"HELP FROM HEAVEN" ~ CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE

Sunday, December 24 at 9:45 AM, 4:00 & 6:30 PM

Join us for Help from Heaven as we celebrate the gift of a Savior. All services will feature our choirs, orchestra, and band as well as a special message from Pastor John Munro. Spanish & Chinese translation will be provided at 9:45 AM & 6:30 PM; ASL provided at 6:30 PM. *Childcare provided to age 4 at all three services.*

Men, join us for breakfast & fellowship

Men's Christmas Breakfast | Friday, December 8, 7:00-8:30 AM, Crown Room

Men of Calvary, reach out this week and invite your coworkers, friends, and neighbors to join us for a hearty breakfast buffet and a message by Pastor Jim Pile on *"Being a Man of Integrity."* Register at Galleria table 4 or calvarychurch.com/mensbreakfast by Monday, December 4. Cost is \$10. Contact: Jennifer Sharpless, 704.341.5417, jsharpless@calvarychurch.com

Calvary hosts international outreach

International Christmas Banquet | Sunday, December 10, 6:00 PM, Crown Room

Calvary is hosting a Christmas outreach banquet for international friends and neighbors! Guests will enjoy a special music program, *"Born to Save the World,"* as part of a wonderful evening of worship and fellowship. Who will you invite? Guests and those attending with guests should RSVP directly to Sibuj Rajappan at srajappan@calvarychurch.com by December 6.

Here's your opportunity to serve...

Christmas Nursery Will you help in the Nursery on **December 17 for the Christmas concert** or on **Christmas Eve at the 4:00 or 6:30 PM** services? Volunteers must have a background check on file and arrive 20 minutes early. Register at calvarychurch.com/holidaynursery or stop by Galleria table 8. Contact: Laura Schlesing, 704.341.5399, lschlesing@calvarychurch.com

Christmas Ushers & Greeters We need additional ushers and greeters for the concert on December 17 at 6:00 PM and all the Candlelight Christmas Eve services. Volunteers must arrive 45 minutes before the service. Ushers Contact: Malcolm Weeks, 704.551.2071, malcolm.weeks@xerox.com // Greeters Contact: Rob Reece, 704.887.3696, rreece@calvarychurch.com

Help with Luke 14 for special needs friends

LUKE 14 BANQUET | Saturday, December 9, 5:30-8:00 PM

LUKE 14 LUNCHEON | Tuesday, December 12, 11:30 AM-1:30 PM

You can help share a Christmas blessing with those in our church and community who have special needs, along with their families and caregivers. At Luke 14 events, Calvary serves a delicious meal in the Crown Room, presents a festive Christmas program, and provides a gift for all who attend. **We still need many volunteers and over 500 more gifts!** Get a list of gift suggestions or sign-up to serve at Galleria table 6A today or calvarychurch.com/luke14. Contact: Vince Eaton, 704.341.5322, veaton@calvarychurch.com

DECEMBER 3, 2017

From the Senior Pastor

Advent

This evening, the Christmas season begins at Calvary! There are a tremendous number of services, outreaches, activities, and

opportunities going on this month. I want to thank the hundreds of you who are serving! If you have not already volunteered, let me encourage you to do so.



John & Gudny Munro

However, it is all too possible that in the middle of the activities we lose sight of our Savior. For centuries, the Old Testament prophets had prophesied of the coming of the Messiah. Peter writes that they "prophesied about the grace that was to be yours" as they "searched and inquired carefully regarding the person of the Messiah and the time when he would appear" (1 Peter 1:10-11). What a privilege we have of studying the Holy Scriptures to learn the important details of the arrival in this world of God's eternal Son. We praise God that the Messiah comes as "a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel" (Luke 2:32). ■

The Book of Esther now on CD

Pastor Munro's recent message series is now available as a boxed CD set in the Word Room bookstore for \$20.



NEWCOMERS

• Reception •

Are you new to Calvary?
Welcome!

Please join John & Gudny Munro in the Calvary Café at 11:15 AM after the worship service this morning.

Enjoy light refreshments, meet other newcomers, and find out more about the life and ministry of our church!



STUDENTS, LET'S CELEBRATE!

Middle School Christmas Party | Friday, December 15, 6:30–8:30 PM, CLC 1300

Enjoy this festive dinner with a tacky sweater contest, Christmas music, and fun gift exchange! Bring a \$5–10 gift for a boy or a girl; no gag gifts. Event cost is \$5. Please register by December 10 at calvarychurch.com/MSChristmas.



High School Christmas Party | Friday, December 15, 6:30–8:30 PM, CLC 1400

Come celebrate with great food, fellowship, games, and door prizes. Wear your ugliest sweater for the big contest! Bring a \$5–10 gift to exchange. Event cost is \$5. Register by December 10 at calvarychurch.com/HSChristmas.



RECONNECT OVER SEMESTER BREAK

College & YA Christmas Party | Tuesday, December 19, 7:00 PM, CLC 1400

After exams, come celebrate Christmas with us! Enjoy food, fellowship, games, and our annual ugly sweater contest. Wear your worst sweater, bring your best attitude, and get ready for an awesome evening! In the new year, The Journey will meet at a **NEW TIME — Tuesdays at 7:30 PM beginning January 9.**



CELEBRATE WITH FAMILY FUN!

Family Christmas Celebration | Friday, December 15, 6:30–8:00 PM, Crown Room

All KidZone and Zone345 1–5 graders, plus parents and siblings, are invited to a fun Christmas celebration with games, music, and sweet treats for the whole family. (It's not a drop off event.) There's no cost, but please register at calvarychurch.com/kidzonechristmas. Contacts: Sue Ridge, 704.887.3695, sridge@calvarychurch.com // Suzanne Phillips, 704.887.3693, sphillips@calvarychurch.com

Participate in the Reformation Tour

Tour Information Meeting | Tuesday, December 5, 7:00 PM, Banquet Room

Pastor John and Gudny Munro are planning a Calvary trip on **July 23–August 4, 2020** to Germany and Switzerland. The group will visit some of the important Reformation sites, attend the **Oberammergau Passion Play** (which is performed every 10 years), and visit the Dauchau Prison Camp and the famous "Eagle's Nest." Because accommodations and tickets for the Passion Play sell quickly, we have to get organized early! Please attend the informational meeting if you're interested in participating in the trip. If you are unable to attend, please register your interest with Erika Morton. Contact: Erika Morton, 704.341.5331, emorton@calvarychurch.com

What an outstanding season!

Coached by Nick Ratchev, the CHAMP U14 soccer team went undefeated this fall in regular season play. They earned their way to the premier Mecklenburg Area Recreational Soccer (MARS) tournament—and won the championship! CHAMP teams are competitive, and the players and coaches faithfully represent the Lord Jesus and Calvary Church throughout our community. Congratulations on a great season! For information about CHAMP Sports, please see champsportsinfo.com. Contact: Kelly Lamb, 704.887.3689, klamb@calvarychurch.com

NEWS & NOTES

🎁 Facing a Challenge? There is encouragement and practical, Christ-centered guidance in the new year. Calvary Support Ministry offers **Boundaries, GriefShare,** and **DivorceCare** classes **starting Monday, January 8, 6:30–8:00 PM.** Childcare is offered for ages 2–7. Visit calvarychurch.com/support for details and registration. Contact: Sandra Moore, 704.887.3681, support@calvarychurch.com

🎁 Food Service Help us plate, serve, set-up, and/or clean-up at **special holiday events!** Stop by Galleria table 6B today to find out more! Contact: Calvary Food Service, 704.887.3663, foodservice@calvarychurch.com

🎁 Food Pantry The Calvary Food Pantry serves so many **families in need during the holidays!** Please help **restock our shelves** with **non-perishable food** and household supplies. Drop off donations in the Galleria at the cupboard near the escalator. Thank you!

🎁 New Believers Class Calvary Children's Ministry will offer a New Believers Class for **1st–6th graders** on Sunday mornings January 21–February 18 at 9:45–11:00 AM. Register today at calvarychurch.com/newbelievers for this age-appropriate introduction to what it means to be a Christ-follower. Contact: Su Trull, 704.341.5458, strull@calvarychurch.com

NEW TODAY? WELCOME!

Thank you for choosing to worship with us at Calvary! Please stop by the Calvary Café following the service this morning. We'd love to meet you and welcome you with a Calvary gift bag!

Families with children, teens, or special needs — Check in at the Family Welcome Desk on the first floor near the elevators. We'll help you register your children and find their classrooms.

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LEADERS OF THE WEEK

Elder	Don Little	704.366.3074
Deacons	David Farynyk	704.999.4513
	Doug Burgess	980.428.2946

PASTOR OF THE WEEK

Pastor Eric Hill, 980.833.3273

MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Daryl & Marlene serving in USA

IN THE GALLERIA TODAY

Christmas Invitations Cards	Table 1
Food Service Volunteers	Table 6B
Luke 14	Table 6A
Nursery Christmas Volunteers	Table 8
Men's Christmas Breakfast	Table 4

CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Invitation Cards

Pick up invitation cards for our Christmas Concert with the Gettys and Candlelight Christmas Eve services in the Galleria!

Calvarychurch.com/christmas

Here's the info about all concerts and services!

Calvarychurch.com/serve

Check out the current serving opportunities.

Social Media & Email

Share our posts on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram! Use our event images to create your own email invitations and posts—download at calvarychurch.com/christmas.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

CCDC Staff | Part-time positions available for afternoon teachers. Contact: Pat Collins, 704.341.5360, pcollins@calvarychurch.com

Food Service | Full-time position available in the Preschool Kitchen. Experience in a school cafeteria or restaurant preferred. Send resume to HR@calvarychurch.com or complete application at the Security Desk in the Galleria.

DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

Stephen & Deborah Seals and family in the loss of Deborah's father, **Mr. Thomas Todd**, on November 28

Lisa Kay Osborne and family in the loss of **Mr. Bud Osborne** on November 27

Chuck & Susan Ferrell and family in the loss of Susan's father, **Mr. Richard J. Kunkel**, on November 24

FOR THE RECORD

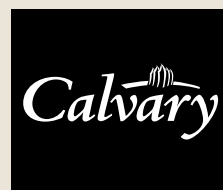
General Fund Offering on 11/26 **\$115,153**
General Fund December Goal \$1,211,976

Missionary Gift Offering on 11/26 **\$19,554**
Missionary Offering to date \$23,326
Missionary Gift Offering Goal \$30,000

UPCOMING MESSAGES

Senior Pastor John Munro will bring the messages below:

Dec 10	9:45 AM	"The Miracle of Christmas" John 1:1–18
Dec 17	9:45 AM	"The Humble Servant of Christmas" Philippians 2:5–8
	6:00 PM	"Sing! An Irish Christmas" with the Gettys & the Calvary Choirs
Dec 24	9:45 AM	"Help from Heaven"
	4:00 PM	Candlelight
	& 6:30 PM	Christmas Eve



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