



FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. *Isaiah 9:6*

GLORY TO GOD in the highest, and on earth peace... *Luke 2:14*

FOR GOD SO LOVED THE WORLD that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

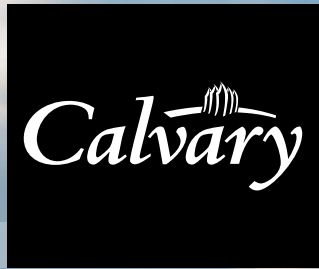
JESUS SPOKE to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." *John 8:12*

**"He is Worthy"**

**Today at 9:45 AM & 6:00 PM**

A special welcome to all our guests! You're invited to stop by our Café after the concerts today. We'd love to meet you and share more about Calvary!

At 9:45 AM, Children's Ministry is provided through Kindergarten. At 6:00 PM, Nursery is available through age 3.



# Looking UP

Calvary Church Weekly News [CALVARYCHURCH.COM](http://CALVARYCHURCH.COM)

## Celebrate Christmas at Calvary

### Candlelight Christmas Eve

Monday, December 24 at 4:00, 6:00, & 8:00 PM

Celebrate "The Coming of the Savior" with us on Christmas Eve at Calvary! This special evening of worship is open to our entire community. All three services include candles, carols, choir, band, and orchestra, plus a powerful message from Pastor Munro. You're invited — bring your family and friends!

ASL interpretation and Spanish, Russian, and Chinese translation will be provided at 6:00 PM. Nursery available to age 3 at the 4:00 and 6:00 PM services. Not able to attend? Join us via livestream at [live.calvarychurch.com](http://live.calvarychurch.com) or simulcast at [facebook.com/calvarychurch.charlotte](http://facebook.com/calvarychurch.charlotte).

Get invitation postcards at Galleria table 2 today. Find all the details at

[CALVARYCHURCH.COM/CHRISTMASEVE](http://CALVARYCHURCH.COM/CHRISTMASEVE)

### International community invited to reception tonight

International Reception | 7:30 PM, Crown Room

All our international families and guests are invited to enjoy dessert at a reception tonight in the Crown Room (on third floor) after the Christmas concert. Come connect with friends from around the world at this annual event! Contact: Pastor Siby Rajappan, [srajappan@calvarychurch.com](mailto:srajappan@calvarychurch.com)

connect at calvary

#### ADULT LIFE GROUPS

These smaller groups are an essential part of helping everyone connect at Calvary and grow in faith together. Adult Life Groups meet on Sundays at 8:30 and 11:15 AM to study God's Word, pray, and share the joys and challenges of life. We develop lasting friendships and true community. Visit as many groups as you like to find the best fit for you! [calvarychurch.com/lifegroups](http://calvarychurch.com/lifegroups)

#### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Our Children's Ministry actively partners with parents to engage each child with fun and creative age-appropriate programs which help build a strong spiritual foundation. Sunday KidZone, Awana, and more! [calvarychurch.com/children](http://calvarychurch.com/children).

#### STUDENT MINISTRY

Middle school and high school students connect in Student Life Groups on Sundays, IGNITE on Wednesdays, plus special events and camps year-round. [calvarychurch.com/middleschool](http://calvarychurch.com/middleschool) & [calvarychurch.com/highschool](http://calvarychurch.com/highschool)

#### U18 WORSHIP MINISTRIES

Children's & Student Worship Choirs meet on Sunday evenings beginning January 6—we welcome all kids and students! Student Worship Choir is for 6–12th graders. Joyful Praise Children's Choir is for 1–5th graders. Our Wee Praisers choir is for ages 4–6. [calvarychurch.com/worshipministries](http://calvarychurch.com/worshipministries)

#### INTERNATIONALS

Calvary is exceptionally diverse with more than 70 countries and dozens of language groups represented. No matter your background, you are welcome! The worship service is translated into Spanish, Chinese, and Russian. ESL classes begin on Tuesday, January 8. [calvarychurch.com/internationals](http://calvarychurch.com/internationals)

#### SENIOR ADULTS

Seniors enjoy caring community in Adult Life Groups on Sundays, monthly Senior Luncheons with organ concerts, exercise classes, trips, and many opportunities to serve. Our next luncheon will be January 24. [calvarychurch.com/seniors](http://calvarychurch.com/seniors)

#### CHAMP SPORTS

Playing sports, making friends, instilling character, and learning about the love of Jesus Christ—find out more about CHAMP at [champsportsinfo.com](http://champsportsinfo.com). Registration for Spring Youth Rec Leagues opens December 30.

DECEMBER 16, 2018

From the Senior Pastor

## He is worthy!

I want to give a personal welcome to our many guests today. Some of you have received a personal invitation from one of our members, or perhaps you have responded to the invitations which have gone out through social media



John & Gudny Munro

and the radio. The title of our concert is "He is Worthy." On the face of it, that may seem a strange title—but we want to keep the focus on our Lord Jesus Christ. All of us find it easy to be distracted by all of the other exciting events of Christmas, and then realize that we have neglected our Lord Jesus, whose birth we are celebrating.

If you are looking for a spiritual home, you are welcome at Calvary. We do have a large campus, but we like to think we are friendly and welcoming to all people. That's one of the themes of Christmas: "Good news of a great joy that will be for all the people" (Luke 2:10). ■

## Looking Ahead to 2019

#### JAN 6 | 2019 CHALLENGE

Pastor Munro begins the new year in Romans 12 with "The Challenge of a Lifetime." Join us! [calvarychurch.com/romans](http://calvarychurch.com/romans)

#### JAN 9 | ON WEDNESDAYS

Bible study electives for adults, Awana Bible Clubs for kids, and Student Ministry IGNITE will resume on Wednesdays at 6:30–8:00 PM. Come enjoy Fellowship Dinner in the Crown Room at 5:00–6:15 PM.

#### JAN 11 | MEN'S BREAKFAST

"Men of Strength & Courage" is the theme of this year's annual gathering. Great fellowship and inspiration! Register at [calvarychurch.com/men](http://calvarychurch.com/men)

#### JAN 12 & 19 | MEMBERSHIP

The Calvary Membership Course provides a common foundation for those considering church membership. Pastor John Munro leads the 2-session course on Saturday mornings. Register at [calvarychurch.com/membership](http://calvarychurch.com/membership).

## Pray. Invite. Serve.

OUR HOLIDAY SERVICES AND MINISTRY ACTIVITIES offer us the privilege of welcoming many guests to Calvary—and sharing the hope of the Gospel! Please **continue to PRAY** for our services. **INVITE others** to join us! Share the **joy through SERVING!** We still have needs for:

**Christmas Eve Ushers & Greeters** | Help welcome our many guests on Christmas Eve! Arrive 45 minutes prior to the start of the services to assist with seating, programs, receiving the offering, and lighting the candles. Ushers Contact: Malcolm Weeks, 704.607.5765, malcolm.weeks58@gmail.com // Greeters: Pastor Rob Reece, 704.887.3696, rreece@calvarychurch.com

**Nursery Volunteers** | Consider attending one Christmas Eve service and volunteering for another! We offer Nursery to age 3 at the 4:00 and 6:00 PM services. All volunteers must have a background check on file. Register at [calvarychurch.com/holidaynursery](http://calvarychurch.com/holidaynursery). Contact: Laura Schlesing, 704.341.5399, lschlesing@calvarychurch.com

## CCDC Director to retire after 42 years



Pat Collins

As announced on December 2, the founding director of the Calvary Child Development Center, Pat Collins, will retire at the end of December 2018. Since 1976, Pat has lovingly and skillfully served thousands of children and families through both Calvary Children's Ministry and the Calvary Child Development Center. In the CCDC, she has established a standard of excellence in early childhood education, growing the center to be one of the largest in the nation. Pat laid the strong, biblical foundation for Calvary's children's programming for over 20 years. Please join us in thanking Pat for her extraordinary lifelong ministry of loving and teaching our children well!

## Men, mark your calendars now!

**Men's Breakfast** | Friday, January 11, 7:00–8:30 AM, Crown Room

Plan now to join us for Calvary's annual Men's Breakfast! We'll enjoy a delicious meal together and be inspired to move forward in the new year—ready to faithfully serve the Lord and make an eternal difference in our homes, church, and community. Senior Pastor John Munro will share from God's Word on the theme, *"Men of Strength and Courage."* Don't miss this great morning of fellowship. The cost is \$10. Register at [calvarychurch.com/mensbreakfast](http://calvarychurch.com/mensbreakfast).

### Thank you for serving with LUKE 14

Over 600 special needs guests, family members, and caregivers attended our Luke 14 banquet and luncheon last week. Everyone was blessed by the table hosts, greeters, and food service volunteers who shared Christ's love with them. The gifts you provided were received with delight by all! We humbly thank each of you who served and provided gifts. You were truly the hands and feet of Jesus this Christmas season!

## NEWS & NOTES

**SUPPORT MINISTRY** Sometimes the holidays intensify personal challenges and relationship struggles. Don't face it alone! Calvary Support Ministry offers practical, Christ-centered studies that provide biblical guidance and the caring support of others who face similar issues. Register for **DivorceCare**, **Boundaries**, or **Trading Grief for Hope** at [calvarychurch.com/supportclasses](http://calvarychurch.com/supportclasses). Contact: Helen Stewart, 704.887.3681, hstewart@calvarychurch.com

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES** Join a new women's Bible study on **Tuesdays, beginning January 8**. Morning (9:30 AM) and evening (7:00 PM) classes are available; get course descriptions and register now at [calvarychurch.com/womensbiblestudies](http://calvarychurch.com/womensbiblestudies). Contact: Jenna Mascia, 704.517.6606, jmascia@live.com

**JOURNEYS OF PAUL** Set sail with Pastor Munro and Gudny on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure from June 6–16, 2019, as you **explore the route of Paul's missionary journeys** through Greece and Turkey aboard the **Star Flyer clipper ship**. You'll enjoy wonderful fellowship, worship, and Bible study! Find out more at [calvarychurch.com/JourneysOfPaul](http://calvarychurch.com/JourneysOfPaul).

**YEAR-END GIVING** As you **pray about this opportunity**, you may want to consider gifting appreciated securities. Scott Henry, Calvary's Director of Ministry Support and Treasurer, is available to **answer your questions** or assist you in making such a gift. Contact: Scott Henry, 704.341.5330, shenry@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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Calvary live streams our Sunday morning worship service at [live.calvarychurch.com](http://live.calvarychurch.com). By attending our service, you consent to photography and audio/video recording for live streaming and subsequent ministry and promotional purposes and release Calvary Church from any and all liability, royalties, or rights of review.

### LEADERS OF THE WEEK

<b>Elder</b>	John Buenavides	704.654.8353
<b>Deacons</b>	Doug Harper	980.225.3028
	Bob Boogaard	980.253.0275

### PASTOR OF THE WEEK

Pastor Nathaniel Pearce, 704.626.8625

### MISSIONARY OF THE WEEK

Keith & Rachel serving in Europe

### IN THE GALLERIA TODAY

Christmas Eve Invitation Cards	Table 2
Romans Study Guide, Part 3	Table 1
Widows Ministry	Table 4
Women's Bible Studies	Table 3

### DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO...

**Sam & Barbara Jacks** and family in the loss of Sam's mother, **Mrs. Betty Murff Jacks**, on December 11

**Patti Leonard** and family in the loss of her brother-in-law, **Mr. David Mendell**, on December 10

**Ralph J. Van Dyke, Sr.** and family in the loss of his wife, **Mrs. Marjean Van Dyke**, on December 10

**Pastor Eric & Amanda Hill** and family in the loss of Amanda's grandmother, **Mrs. Marilyn Trine**, on December 7

The family of **Mrs. Nancy Forrester** in her recent passing

**Fred & Robin Bridges** and family in the loss of Robin's father, **Mr. Bill Terry**, on December 3

Former Calvary missionary **Doug Stewart** and family in the loss of his wife, **Mrs. Marilyn Stewart**, on December 1

**Rob & Allyson Davis** and family in the loss of Rob's father, **Mr. James Robert (J.R.) Davis**, on November 28

**Lynne Takac** and family in the loss of her father, **Mr. Richard Weaver**, on November 23

**Cornelius & Michele Wright** and family in the loss of Michele's mother, **Mrs. Lorraine Dundee**, on November 19

### FOR THE RECORD

**General Fund Offering:**  
Week of 12/9 (no service) **\$137,771**

\$1,332,443	General Fund DECEMBER Goal
\$967,247	Balance needed to meet goal
\$365,196	Received through week of 12/9

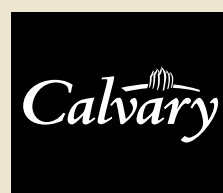
### Missionary Christmas Gift Offering

MC Gift Offering received through 12/9 \$40,489  
MC Gift Offering Goal \$30,000

*Thank you — the Missionary Christmas Gift goal has been met! Any gifts over our goal will be applied to GO Trip costs in 2019.*

### UPCOMING MESSAGES

<b>Dec 23</b>	9:45 AM	"The Coming of the King" Communion (No ALGs, Student Ministry & 11:15 Children's Ministry)
<b>Dec 24</b>	4:00 6:00 & 8:00 PM	Candlelight Christmas Eve "The Coming of the Savior"
<b>Dec 30</b>	9:45 AM	"Israel's Future" Romans 11:25–36



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