

Dear Church Family,

What's next? That's the question we find ourselves continually asking as we move ahead with Colonial Avenue Baptist Church and Calvary Baptist Church becoming one congregation. Although we find it fairly easy to plan activities and programs together, there are still many unanswered questions and unsettled issues.

On the surface, one would think the joining of congregations would seem a minor challenge. After all, we are baptists. Most of us have at least similar religious experiences and understanding of the purpose of Christ's people coming together.

Don't we all think the purpose of the people of God is to worship God; to nurture a growing likeness to Jesus; to introduce others to the truth of Jesus Christ so they might come to faith in Him; to practice the love of Jesus in every aspect of our lives so that the Kingdom of God may come.

We may use different words. Our understandings may be slightly different but can't we agree on these basic points? Yet, we are often amazed that Christians, Baptists, individual congregations, even "parties" within a congregation can seem to find plenty of other things about which to passionately disagree.

Believe it or not, if Colonial Avenue and Calvary worked really hard, we are sure we could find at least one or two things we feel so differently about, we can hardly stand doing "their" way.

That's why we need *Dawnings*. We hope you've at least heard of *Dawnings* by now. *Dawnings* is an approach to doing church that helps congregations (even two congregations trying to be one) come to an understanding about their identity and how that identity comes to life.

Both congregations, everyone, together, will be having conversations about what is truly important in being "Church." We will be praying together. We will be talking about what we have in common and how our common mission to share Christ can be "fleshed out."

*Dawnings* begins this weekend with a training event for eight lay people (Steven Harris, Neil Kinsey, Robert McKinney, John Pruitt, Joyce Short, Ginny Smith, Cara Sutherland, and Joyce Waugh), who will lead us. Mark Snipes of CBF Virginia and Stephen Cook of Memphis Tennessee will be our leaders. Soon after, we will be convening 4 sessions where those leaders will help us decide at who we are and who we will be becoming.

So, pray, pray, pray. It's the only way we know to know God and see our way forward through God's eyes.

Your pastors,  
Steve and Melissa



## October Birthdays

Melissa Scott	Oct. 3	Terry Allinder	Oct. 8	Mary Valentine	Oct. 23
Christy Knott	Oct. 4	Bob Conner	Oct. 9	Darren Petty	Oct. 25
Bill Felton	Oct. 4	Cheryl Nicely	Oct. 10	Betsy Ogle	Oct. 29
Tim Thornhill	Oct. 6	Jessie Dwyer	Oct. 13	Jordan Poff	Oct. 31
Isaiah Bush	Oct. 7	Mary Ellen Gearhart	Oct. 17		

## Prayer Concerns

- Those who are homebound or in retirement/nursing homes: Madaline Brown, Jim Bryant, Lois Burge, Jane Byrum, Virginia Draper, Mary Durrer, Buddy Garrett, Buddy Hawkins, Evelyn Hutcherson, Nadine Minnix, Shirley Moore, Betty Obenchain, Louise Parris, Betty Payne, Becky Peyton, Jack Pilcher, Evelyn Ragland, Alice Scogin, Anna Mae Smith, Frances Williams, Katie Wood
- Those with cancer including Doug Hicks (Kathy Kinsey's Brother), Barbara Kern, Susan Wimmer (Ginny Smith's friend), Penny Long (Bob Crawford's sister), Angela Johnson (Joyce Short's niece), Carolyn Straughen (A.G. Melson's sister)
- Our congregations, our pastors, our community, and those around the world
- Sue Epperly, in Lewis Gale Hospital
- Evelyn Lewis
- Carolyn Young
- Joshua Conner, Ginny Smith's great-nephew
- Jim Perdue, brother-in-law of Mark and Ginny Smith

## Giving

Thank you for your faithful support of the ministry of our church. If you wish to give an offering, you may do so by placing it in the designated plate in the foyer, via mail, electronically through your bank or our websites at: <https://cabcbchurchtrac.com/give> or <https://bit.ly/givecalvary>. You may also donate by scanning our QR codes:



## Upcoming Meetings

- **Sunday, October 8**, following worship: "Calvary" Council Meeting
- **Monday, October 9**, 5:30 pm: Implementation Team
- **Sunday, October 15**, 2:00 pm: Joint Deacons Meeting

## Bible Study Opportunities

- **Sunday Morning Bible Study** is a great way to connect with God and with our church family! We have classes for all ages and stages of life at 9:30 am.
- **Fall Midweek Bible Study** will meet at noon on **Wednesdays** in the conference room and on Zoom: ([www.bit.ly/cabcbiblestudy](http://www.bit.ly/cabcbiblestudy)). This fall, Rev. Steven Harris will lead us through a study of the book of Judges.
- **Young Adult Dinner & Bible Study**: Young adults (20s-30s) are invited to join us for dinner & Bible study **Thursdays** at 6 pm, hosted by Pastor Melissa and Ric.

## All Saints Day Service of Remembrance

**On Sunday, October 29**, during worship, we will have our annual All Saints' Service of Remembrance, giving thanks for the lives of church members who have entered heaven in the past year. There will be an opportunity for you to speak the name of the saints who have touched your own life, as well.

## ***Volunteer Opportunities***

- There are several areas in which you can help us move forward in forming our new church!
  - CABC has several shelves of historical documents and photographs that need to be sorted, purged, and stored. If you can help with this, contact Karen in the church office. This can be done on your own schedule.
  - On **Saturday, October 14**, beginning at 9:00 am, we will be cleaning out spaces in our church building and storage units. There will be jobs for everyone, so please plan to be here to help! If you have a pickup truck that can be used for transporting items, that would be wonderful!
  - We have some hanging shelves that need to be removed in a closet in order to maximize our storage space.
  - The prayer garden is always in need of loving hands to weed and tend the plants.
- Help feed our youth on **Sunday evenings** during our dinner & discipleship time! We eat at 5:00 pm, and it's best to prepare for 12-14. Let Pastor Melissa know if you would like to provide a meal or sign up at: <http://bit.ly/pbjyouthmeals>.
- Child care needed. We need volunteers to provide child care once a month during our parents of tweens and teens group meeting. We will meet the **2nd Sunday of each month** from about 11:45 am-1:15 pm, and lunch will be provided. Let Pastor Melissa know if you can help!

## ***Book & Magazine Collection***

The Evelyn Townsend Circle is collecting reading materials for the Roanoke City Jail library and for TAP. Paperback books and magazines will go to Roanoke City Jail and hardback books will go to TAP. Please place your donations in the appropriate box in the foyer. Thank you for supporting this ministry!

## ***Women's Missions: Evelyn Townsend Circle Invite***

Attention all ladies of our newly formed church: Please join the Evelyn Townsend Circle **Monday, Oct. 9**, 12 pm at the home of Ellen Scott, as we plan our Mission projects.

## ***Youth Ministry***

- Our regular Youth Dinner and Discipleship time begins again on **September 10**. We will meet on Sundays from 5-7 pm for dinner & Bible study. This fall, we will be learning about "Surprising Things Jesus Said."
- Parents of tweens and teens are invited to join us on the **second Sunday of each month** at 11:45 am as we support each other and learn together about ways to stay connected with your tween/teen, help to shape their character, and foster positive, respectful, and fun relationships with them.

## ***Fall Family Fun***

Children of all ages and their families are invited to have some fall fun together at the pumpkin patch and corn maze! We're headed to Layman Family Farms on **Saturday, Oct. 21**. The cost is \$20 per person & includes all the activities on the farm. If you would like to learn more, here's their website: <https://www.laymanfamilyfarm.com>. If you would like to carpool, we will meet in the church parking lot at 1:00 pm. You can also meet us at Layman's ticket office at 1:30.

## ***Keystone Center Thanksgiving Food Boxes***

One of our missions partners, Keystone Community Center, distributes 50 Thanksgiving food boxes to our neighbors in the city. We are collecting food for those boxes. The following is a list of items needed. Please bring your donations and place them on the table in the foyer by October 29. Note: No glass please.

Boxed instant potatoes (26.2 oz)	Small bottles of syrup	Granulated sugar (1 lb. box)
Small bottles of cooking oil	Small bottle of dish soap	Foil (25 ft.)
Canned of corn	Boxed mac & Cheese	Canned soup
Canned green beans	Boxes of Jell-O	Packets of chicken or turkey
Evaporated milk	Boxed saltine crackers	gravy mix (no jars)
Cereal	Small jars of peanut butter	Boxed chicken or turkey stuffing
Just add water pancake mix	Small jars of jelly	Small bottles of laundry detergent

4165 Colonial Ave.  
Roanoke, VA 24018-4097  
540-774-2084

### Our Church Staff:

Rev. Melissa Scott  
Pastor

Dr. Steven Pollard  
Pastor

Rev. Steven Harris  
Minister in Residence

Debbie Foutz  
Church Administrator

Karen Viele  
Church Administrator

Bill Lininger  
Music Director

## Rise Against Hunger

On September 30, 19 of our church members joined with other churches to pack meals with Rise Against Hunger. Rise Against Hunger is an organization that brings people together to fight hunger in sustainable ways. Our part in that work was to pack meal kits of rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and vitamins. Together, we packed over 11,000 meal kits, enough to feed 55 children for an entire year! Check out some pictures from the day...



**A little friendly competition...and the boys won!**

## Children in Worship

When children are dedicated in our church, the whole congregation promises to do all they can to help the children grow in their faith. Research shows that the second largest factor (right after the activeness of their parents' faith) in children who remain active in church as adults is their integration into the life of the church from a young age. One important part of this is helping children learn to worship. Young children learn to worship by being taught they have a place in the community of the church, by seeing, hearing, feeling, even smelling, the sanctuary as a place of welcome and worship, by being around other children in the worship space, by watching how their significant adults sing and make prayers and offerings, by sharing prayers, communion, and worship leadership alongside adults, and by being given ways to watch for God's presence in their own lives, and being encouraged to share where they notice God and how they participate in God's love. Recently, we found this in an offering envelope, placed in the offering plate by one of our children:



In our church, this happens on the PrayGround, a special area right up front with a child sized table and chairs, floor pillows, and worship aids. While children are at the PrayGround, they participate fully in worship, in ways that are child-friendly. They have their own worship guides, prepared each week by Pastor Melissa, that help them follow along with the service. For now, the younger children (ages 4 and older) are remaining in worship until the sermon, at which point they leave for a special time of learning about the Bible lesson on their own level. Our older children sometimes choose to stay in worship with us and work on a "pew project" that will relate to the sermon theme and helps them focus.

The PrayGround also helps adults learn to worship by becoming like a child (Matthew 18:3). Children notice, absorb and feel deeply. They respond freely. Just as children learn to worship from adults, we learn to worship with our whole hearts from children.

The number of children coming to worship now (what a blessing!) means that there may be a little more noise and movement than some of us are used to, but our desire is to embrace our children as part of our church family now so that they will be well-loved and well-prepared members of our church later. While we do not want our children to be disruptive or hamper the worship of others, all of us together need to be reminded that children are not the church of the future. They are the church of the present and are to be treasured as such. May God's grace spread through all of us to our young friends. And thank you in advance for helping us welcome the children to worship!

We would love to have a rotation of adults who would act as worship hosts, helping our children learn to worship on the PrayGround. Pastor Melissa would be more than happy to offer you some training and walk you through what we do each week.



## The Evelyn Townsend Mission Circle

The Evelyn Townsend Mission Circle meets the 2nd Monday of each month from September through May. This is a warm and welcoming Circle of women who are active and engaged in supporting various mission projects in and around the Roanoke Valley. New members are always welcome!

In 1980, the women of Calvary church formed a group called the Baptist Young Women's group and on January 14, 1980, twelve young ladies held their first meeting in the home of a church member. The group continued to hold monthly meetings. After six years as the Baptist Young Women, the name was changed to honor a church member, Mrs. Evelyn Townsend, who had made tremendous contributions to both Calvary and to our community. Of the twelve charter members Esther Crosier, Sue Epperly, Betty Hall, Mary Ellen Gearhart, and Evelyn Lewis are still working within the group.

The Goal of the Circle is to "go into all the world", through our mission projects, with the message of Christ and show a spirit of love and caring for all people. We strive to grow closer and stronger in our relationship with God and in our friendship with each other, to encourage others to join our Circle, and to continue to be a vibrant and important part of the church's ministry. We believe that the call to influence the world for Christ transcends gender and we specifically value the call as it relates to women. We hold fast to Christ's command in Scripture to live a missional lifestyle.

The Circle holds fundraisers to support their mission work. In the past year they have given over \$1000 to organizations such as Friendship House, Samaritan Inn, the Good Neighbors Fund, Missionaries Coppages and Barbees, Roanoke Community Gardens, Hurt Park Elementary School, Ronald McDonald House, and Local Area on Aging. They also regularly support the efforts of these organizations by assisting with gathering donations or volunteering to serve a meal to help those within the community. This Circle is a strong supporter of the Pastors and the activities of the church.

In addition to the community work that they do, the Circle actively supports the church's ministries through greeting cards, visits, and phone calls on the various occasions of joy or concern/sadness that occurred in the lives of our church members and friends.

If you would like to become part of this group, please contact the church office. All women are invited!"



Women  
on a  
Mission