

News from Calvary



February 2019



Calvary's Mission

As God's Children, our mission is to

Know His Word,

Share His Word

and

Live His Word.

Calvary's Vision

To be a Christ-centered church, alive with worship and meaningful ministries, where the youngest to the oldest are serving and being served, growing and helping others to grow, and connecting with each other and our surrounding communities.



Connect.



Grow.



Serve.



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The famous theologian Charles Spurgeon once wrote, “*By perseverance the snail reached the ark.*” When I first read this quote, I thought to myself that this is probably one of the more bizarre quotes that I’ve read from famous theologians.

But on second consideration of this quote, I believe that there is some real depth going on here. When we think of all of the animals that were on Noah’s ark (see *Genesis 6-8*), most of us like to imagine them all nice and neat marching up into the ark. Except different animals move at different speeds. Some run. Some walk. And some crawl. It wouldn’t have been the nice even-paced load in that so many of us think of. And yet they all got on there, didn’t they?

As I write this, I’m also thinking about the journey that Calvary has been on. How at various times in Calvary’s history, things must have felt frustrating. Why is the church doing something different? Why does the church not look the way it did when I was a child? Why don’t all of the families from 50 years ago still attend? There are a lot of other “*why*” questions that could be asked, but I believe that there is a more important point to be looked at.

Years ago, when I first lived in NJ, my family would drive out to Ohio to see all of our family out there. My parents would load up their red Plymouth Volare wagon and we’d be on our way. And along with my memories of the visits with family, I also remember the ride in the car being a bit of an adventure each time.

And that’s why I believe that Charles Spurgeon’s quote about the snail is so important for God’s people and especially for Calvary. It’s about the road that God has put us on. And if you’re willing to persevere, I truly believe that God has an adventure waiting for each of His children.

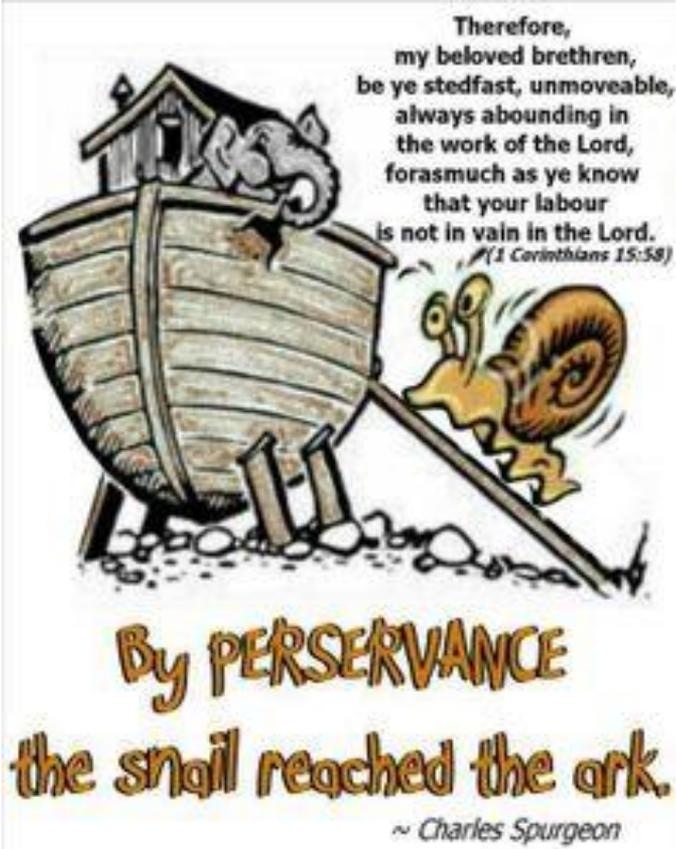
Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

(1 Corinthians 9:24-27)

Remember my friends, wherever you go, whatever you do, you're on the King's business.

Blessings,
Pastor Kuder

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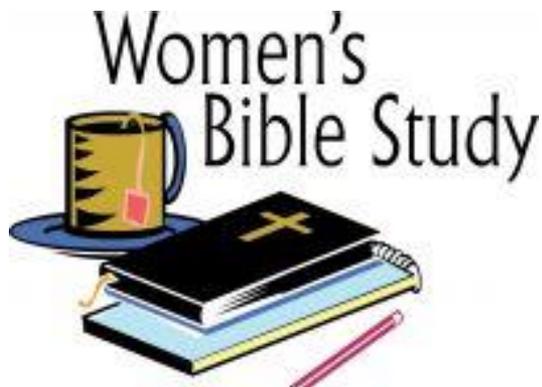


Our Sermon Series for February:



ReBrand: Refocusing Our Mission and Purpose

Big Idea of the Sermon Series: This four-week series addresses one of the most pressing issues for many Christians today: the image problem of the church. Do we need to “rebrand” our ministry for a world that has increasingly negative perceptions of the Christian faith? This series seeks to ask the initial question and ultimately turn it on its head, asking what the continual search for better branding has done to harm the witness of the church. Branding has turned churches into competing businesses, much like the factions in the church at Corinth. Instead of rebranding, we can learn from the church in Acts to restore our faithful presence in the world.



The Parables of Jesus will be the focus of the Women's Bible Study Group for the next six sessions.

Please join us as we not only delve into the parables themselves and their relevance for us today, but learn about the geography, culture, and history of the location of each parable.

Please join us on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month at 7:30 p.m. in Kavasch Hall.

January 28: *The Coming of the Kingdom - Weeds, Mustard Seed, Yeast, Matthew 13:24-33*

February 11: *The Grace of the Kingdom - Two Debtors, Luke 7:36-50*

February 25: *The God of the Kingdom - The Prodigal Son, Luke 15:11-32*

March 11: *The Demand of the Kingdom - Treasure and Pearls, Matthew 13:44-46*

March 25: *The Mission of the Kingdom - The Wedding Banquet, Matthew 22:1-14*

April 8: *The Fulfillment of the Kingdom - Sheep and Goats, Matthew 25:31-46*

If you have any questions please see Joanne Arroyo after church or call at 973-239-1021.



Those Who Serve Us:

✝ Altar Guild: Lauren Molinari

✝ Greeters:

Feb. 3 Nancy Keltner, Brian Keltner

Feb. 10 Gordon and Ruth Wickham

Feb. 17 Joanne Arroyo

Feb. 24 Karen Gordon El





Those Who Serve Us:

† Flower Visitors:

- Feb. 3 Joyce Sapara-Grant
Feb. 10 Anne Daly
Feb. 17 Liz Kuder
Feb. 24 Jaya Lakra

† Ushers:

- Feb. 3 Gbenga Adesokan, John Ricca
Feb. 10 Ajit Lakra, John Wickham
Feb. 17 Chris Molinari, Stephen Molinari
Feb. 24 Brian Keltner, Gordon Wickham



Many Hands Make LIGHT Work



Feb. 3	Eric Ponczek
Feb. 4	Bill Keltner
Feb. 7	Lehman Lee
Feb. 14	Ken Meyer
Feb. 21	Tracy Dokie
Feb. 22	Karl Wetter
Feb. 28	Melissa Bonaguide

