

CONNECTION

CALVARY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Calvary Staff

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**October 20, 2025 is the
Deadline for the
November 2025
Connection**

A Word from Dr. Dan

I had the privilege of growing up when Charles Shultz brought Charlie Brown and Friends to television (1960's). To this day I have a nostalgic yearning to begin my Fall with "It's the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown."

The focus is, of course, on the never-ending bad luck of Charlie Brown – noted by his lack of invitations to any Tricks or Treats parties and his reception of rocks instead of candy. But the greater story line is Linus. The little boy who has the truth of the Christmas story down pat but falls prey to the fairy tale of The Great Pumpkin Spirit who will visit every pumpkin patch to look for the "most sincere pumpkin patch" and reward the person who stays up into the night to see him. "You just have to believe."

You know how the story ends...Lucy, his sister, comes out to get her little brother and takes the little guy to bed. Disappointed again.

As I waited with anticipation during the Fall Feasts of Lord this past September, I often feel like Linus – like I waited for something that did not come. The difference is that my belief in the Rapture of the Church, the appearance of my Lord and Savior is not some fairytale or even dependent upon whether I sincerely believe it or not. It is a biblical fact and something that I will keep waiting for no matter when it arrives. It could be today. It could be tomorrow. It could be long after I have left this world in physical death.

October Birthdays

Dave Swigart	October 2
Lorraine Swigart	October 2
Geoffrey Lee	October 10
Diann Sedam	October 10
Judy Bainbridge	October 14
Joyce Reed	October 17
Tom Weatherwax	October 22

October Anniversaries

Scott & Candi Sarver

married for 15 years October 10

David & Betsy Morrical

married for 47 years October 12

Bill & Karen Turnpaugh

married for 62 years October 26

Unlike Linus, all is not wasted. Every year I start the countdown from Pentecost to Yom Teruah (the Blowing of the Trumpets) anticipating the God will doing something supernatural through Jesus during the Feasts. He eventually will. But in the meantime, it gives me a yearly recalibration. It reminds me of what is important. It reminds me of the eventual coming of Jesus and that I need to be right in my relationship with Him, with others, and praying for the lost. It reminds me to watch, wait, and work until that event happens.

But until then my heart still goes to Proverbs 13:12, 12 “Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a longing fulfilled is a tree of life.” (Prov. 13:12 NIV)

I’ll think of it as eating too much Halloween candy and longing for better days.

Looking to the season of Thanksgiving...

Blessings, Dr. Dan

HELP WITH COFFEE HOUR TREATS

A tremendous thanks to all who have provided treats for coffee hour and joined in fellowship. If you would like to help on a Sunday, the sign-up sheet is on the welcome table in the front entrance. If you prefer to provide treats but have Deacons assemble them on Sunday morning, please let the Deacons know. We can also take donations for coffee hour treats and buy them for you. See a Deacon if you need more information or would like to provide treats with a Deacon.

A LETTER FROM YOUR SESSION

Church Family, we continue to try and serve you as we appreciate the past, examine the present and look forward to the future. Here are a few of the highlights of our time together.

Air Conditioning: Finally, after months of waiting the massive project of replacing the A/C system was completed thanks in part to the financial gift of Dick and Ann Sims. It is a reminder to think about your church family when making out your will. That will be a legacy and a gift that will keep on giving with each sweltering summer we have down the road. We are so thankful. Thankful also to Malcolm, Judy and the crew who do the monthly meals that go to the Capital Fund where those donations allow us to continue to make the needed upgrades in the electric, elevator, and other physical needs our aging building has.

Denomination changes: I'll try and number these for clarity.

1. Session has decided to leave ECO (Evangelical Covenant Order of Presbyterians) primarily because of distance. Most churches are between 2-3 hours away and it makes it difficult to have fellowship or be actively involved. We are leaving in "good standing." No issues. They have wished us well if that is our final decision. No monetary payout; only a letter from our secretary of Session.
2. We explored the EPC (Evangelical Presbyterian Church). Good people. Several churches within an hour of us. But the top-down denominational structure felt very restrictive to the needs of our church family.
3. Session wrestled and prayed about this for at least a year and decided that the best course of action would be to become a Community Church not under the auspices and authority of a parent denomination.
4. As one of our members so aptly stated, "We will no longer be Presbyterian" but "presbyterian." Wonderfully and accurately stated. We are still presbyterian in our governance (plurality of elders) and Reformed in our theology (Solas). So, very little if any changes will be felt by the congregation at all.
5. Bylaws will need to reflect that change.

Bylaw changes:

1. Bylaw changes will reflect the new local structure of authority; community based. Remember that bylaws are a living document that can and should be adapted and changed when and if our congregational needs change as seen in point 2.

2. Bylaw changes will also reflect our current status as an ageing church and the need to think outside of box when it comes to term limits. We only have a hand full of people who can serve as elders and deacons so that our current rotation system makes it increasingly difficult to get a full team or to keep a full team.

3. Bylaw changes will further reflect and clarify our presbyterian heritage and theology.

Staff additions:

The above two are needed so that we might be able to pursue an assistant pastor. Pastor Dan is getting very old, and we are looking to provide a healthy exit strategy for him (at some time) and a healthy movement from assistant pastor to senior pastor to whomever the Lord should provide for us.

Change is always difficult, but we are trying to make it as seamless as possible for the future health, growth, and well-being of our church family.

Blessings,

Dr. Dan Lute and Session

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

We will continue holding the prayer meetings once a month. It gives us an opportunity to spend some time in prayer -which is desperately needed. Below are a couple of the scheduled dates, where we can gather to pray for each other, for the lost, for our nation, or just pray through the scriptures to hear God's voice.

Time: 6:30-7:30

Place: Sanctuary

Dates: October 15th
November 19th

We hope that you can join us and invite someone to come with you.

Elders: Class of 2025

Bill Heinzman
Terrie VanSoest

Elders: Class of 2026

Sara Overway
David Swigart

Elders: Class of 2027

Jeff Overway
Scott Rush

Deacons: Class of 2025

Dan Reef
Kay Rottet
Ron Rottet

Deacons: Class of 2026

Jeff Goltry
Pat Reef
Buttons Smith

Deacons: Class of 2027

Judy Bainbridge
Tim Roth
Chris Williamson

CALVARY FOUNDATION UPDATE *by Jeff Overway*

Your Calvary Presbyterian Church Foundation met on Thursday, September 18th at 6:30 p.m. in the Davidson Library. President Jeff Overway reported that as of close of business on September 17, 2025, the Foundation had a balance of \$278,354.29.

We had 2 requests that we considered:

1. \$11,250 on behalf of GTi Hope to sponsor the Taparwasi Unreached People Group Church Planting Project in Punjab India. This would be the first of three yearly donations totaling \$31,750.
2. \$8,600 for Pastor Fred in Kenya to complete the purchase of an SUV for his missional trips throughout the country.

Both requests were approved unanimously.

Our next meeting is November 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the Davidson Library. Any covenant partner of Calvary Church is welcome to be a member of the Foundation. If you are interested in joining, please contact Jeff Overway or just show up at our next meeting.

Respectfully,

Jeff Overway

SENIOR CHRISTMAS BAGS *by Sara Overway*

In a few short months we will be gathering to put these bags together. I wanted to share what will go in the bags.

Large: (300)

\$25.00 gift card to Dollar Tree

Paper towel

Toilet paper

Toothbrush * donated by another Church

Kleenex * donated by another Church

Hat, gloves, scarf

Small: (250)

Lotion

Coloring book

Color pencils

Kleenex * donated by another Church

Calvary Covenant partners who are in the nursing home will get a lap blanket.

The cost of this project:

\$ 7,500.00 (gift from Calvary Foundation)

\$ 998.91 hats, gloves and scarf

\$ 421.94 toilet/ paper towel

\$ 937.50 small bags items

\$ 9,858.35 total cost

\$ 8,144.82 donations

\$ 1,713.53 left to raise

I would like to thank those who have given funds towards the Christmas Bags.

For some of these residents this is the only gift they will receive at Christmas. I ask that you pray about contributing to this project. Please give your donations to Malissa in the Church office or place your check in the offering box and please make sure you put Sr. Bags in the memo line

I will have cards ready for Covenant partners to write a message to the recipient of the gift. They will be ready October 18th.

Again, thank you!

In His Service

Sara Overway

We want our covenant partners and any other friends of Calvary to know that there are wonderful scripture based Bible studies currently in session. We will try to keep our Connection viewers informed of what each study is studying monthly. The following is information on current studies. We welcome all who want to join a study to do so!

WOMEN'S MONDAY MORNING & EVENING BIBLE STUDY *by Deb Lute*

The Monday morning and evening Bible study began on Monday, September 15th. This bible study **meets every other Monday** with two options for you to attend. You can join us from 9:30-11:00 a.m. in Davidsons Library or 6:30-8:00 p.m. at the Lute's home.

We are doing a study on ***Broken Yet Used for a Purpose***. This study is looking at broken people in the bible and how God used them in great ways.

If you are interested in being a part of this study, it is not too late to join. Contact Deb Lute

DR. DAN'S BIBLE STUDIES *by Rev. Dan Lute*

We welcome you to join us on Wednesday nights (6:30-7:30) for an in depth study of Genesis. Dr. Dan also has two Ezekiel studies, one after the morning service (11 - noon) for everyone and for the men from 8:15-9:15 on Thursday mornings. All are invited and bring a friend.

LOAVES AND FISHES SCHEDULE FOR 2025

Loaves and Fishes provide meals for the needy as well as fellowship by many of the local area churches including Calvary . This program provides a Saturday lunch, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., all year long. Donations are accepted. Meals will be served on the following dates:

October 4	Faith Fellowship
October 11	Great Banquet at Calvary
October 18	Church of the Good Shepherd
October 25	Trinity Episcopal

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 6:30 pm Genesis Bible Study 7:30 AA	2 8:15 am Men's Bible Study 11:00 Mom's Group	3 10:00 am AA	4 <i>L&F at Faith Fellowship</i>
5 9:30 am Worship & Communion 10:45 Church Information Meeting 7:30 pm AA	6 6:30 pm Dance Fitness Class 7:30 AA	7 10:00 am AA 2:30 Alanon 5:30 Senior Dance Group 6:00 Deacons Meeting 6:30 GB Interviews	8 Noon – DV Task Force Meeting 6:30 Genesis Bible Study 7:30 AA	9 8:15 am Men's Bible Study	10 10:00 am AA	11 <i>L&F – Great Banquet at Calvary</i>
12 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Ezekiel Study 7:30 pm AA	13 9:30 am Deb's Women's Bible Study 6:30 Deb's Women's Bible Study (Lute's home) 6:30 Dance Fitness Class 7:30 pm AA	14 10:00 am AA 2:30 Alanon 5:30 Senior Dance Group	15 6:30 pm Prayer Meeting 7:30 AA	16 8:15 am Men's Bible Study	17 10:00 am AA	18 <i>L&F at Church of the Good Shepherd</i>
19 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Ezekiel Study 7:30 pm AA	20 6:30 pm Dance Fitness Class 7:30 AA	21 10:00 am AA 2:30 Alanon 5:30 Senior Dance Group 6:30 Session Mtg	22 6:30 pm Genesis Bible Study 7:30 AA	23 8:15 am Men's Bible Study 5:30 Literacy Adult Spelling Bee	24 10:00 am AA	25 <i>L&F at Trinity Episcopal</i>
26 9:30 am Worship 10:45 Ezekiel Study 7:30 pm AA	27 9:30 am Deb's Women's Bible Study 6:30 Deb's Women's Bible Study (Lute's home) 6:30 Dance Fitness Class 7:30 pm AA	28 10:00 am AA 2:30 Alanon 5:30 Senior Dance Group 5:30 Great Banquet Mtg	29 4:00-8:00 pm Hope Behavioral Trunk or Treat 6:30 Genesis Bible Study 7:30 AA	30 8:15 am Men's Bible Study 11:00 Mom's Group	31 10:00 am AA	