



# THE CALVARY CONNECTION

Unity. Liberty. Love. Serve.

SEPTEMBER 2026

## September Birthdays

1: Dawn Martin, Tres Seippel  
2: Andrea Redd  
3: John Oerter  
4: Harrison Grubbs, Deborah Nance  
5: Joel C. Lineback  
7: Fred Crouch II, Bette Peterson  
8: Mitchell Eaton  
9: Cheryl Hutchens, Sally Meehan  
10: Dave Clodfelter  
11: Brandon Grimes, Rameth McKnight  
12: Bill Seippel  
13: Hoyle Schultz Jr.  
14: Spencer Davis III  
15: Penny Hege  
16: Dee Jones, Denise Segraves

17: Andrew Montoya  
18: J. Daniel Redding Jr.  
19: Lisa Davis, Mike Hattaway  
20: Paisley Payne, Tracy Pryor-Poole  
21: Lilli Baker  
22: Patrick Meehan, Josh Moyer  
23: Ellie Lough, Liam Lough, Robert Middleton  
24: Melanie Montoya  
25: Jae Goess  
26: Butch Goforth Jr., Chi Chi Messick, Lee Reviere  
28: Shirley Hughes, Julia McMichael  
29: Wesley Harrison  
30: Liz Stanford

## KICKOFF SUNDAY

We are so excited to kick-off another year of ministry at Calvary with our kickoff on September 13th! We hope you'll join us as we celebrate education in all its forms, beginning with Calvary coffee cake and coffee in Fellowship Hall at the start of the Sunday School hour, (9:45-10:15 AM.) Then, we'll head to our new classrooms to make sure we all know where we're going and do a fun intro lesson. During worship, we'll give out the Second Floor stars to those kids coming up from Nursery and those moving into Youth Fellowship. And then, after worship, our Men's Fellowship will host a church-wide lunch in the Fellowship Hall at 12 PM.

# PASTOR CHAZ'S SABBATICAL



From August 24th through November 23rd, I will be away from Calvary on sabbatical.

The practice of sabbath rest is older than any of us, a rhythm built into creation itself, and one the church has always struggled, rightly, to take seriously. After years in the regular rhythms of pastoral life, the Joint Board has given me this season away: time for rest, time with family, and time for study I have not otherwise had room to pursue. I am grateful to them for making it possible, and to this congregation for the trust that gift reflects.

I do not take this time away lightly. A congregation continues to need care while its pastor steps back, and I am thankful that you will be well looked after in my absence. Amanda Schumpert and Pastor Nola Knouse will provide pastoral care and be available for any emergencies. For administrative matters, Jacob Patrick will be glad to help.

I covet your prayers over these months, not only for my own rest but for the life of this church while I am away. I go with confidence that Calvary is in good hands, and I look forward to returning to you in late November with a fuller heart and, I hope, a clearer sense of what these next years of ministry together might hold.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Chaz

# FROM AMANDA'S DESK

Happy Fall, Calvary Family!

I don't know about you, but I'm ready for cooler weather, college football (Go Vols!), scarves, and the energy of a new school and church season. As we send Pastor Chaz off for a wonderful sabbatical and look forward to having him back at the start of Advent, this fall is full of ways to gather, worship, study, pray, and show hospitality to our neighbors.

## **Returning in September**

Midweek Bible Study, Chancel Choir rehearsals, Sunday morning Sunday School for all ages, Handbell Choir rehearsals, and Godly Play for our Pre-K–2nd graders all return this month.

## **Music at Calvary**

If you have any interest in music, we'd love to have you. The Calvary Band, led by Brian Lott, rehearses Sunday mornings at 10:30am in the balcony and leads our pre-service prelude as well as regular musical offerings during worship. If you play an instrument or want to learn one, see Brian to get involved.

Our handbell choir, the Calvary Ringers, meets Sunday mornings from 9–9:45am beginning September 13. Everyone is welcome — let me know if you'd like to give bells a try.

## **Wednesday Evening Bible Study, September 16–November 18, 6-7pm**

I have the privilege of teaching our midweek Bible Study this fall, Wednesdays at 6pm. Each week we'll dig into the upcoming Sunday's worship service: reading the lectionary passages, exploring the themes that connect them, and discussing our hymn, liturgy, and text choices. The goal is to bring a deeper, more informed perspective into Sunday morning worship. Questions welcome anytime!

Chancel Choir rehearsal follows Bible Study each Wednesday, 7–8pm in the Sanctuary. Everyone is invited to come give singing a try — it's a wonderful way to worship, build community, and enjoy the real mental, physical, and spiritual benefits singing brings.

## **Bookmarks Festival — Saturday, September 26**

We're proud to once again serve as a hosting venue for the Bookmarks Festival, which draws nearly 30,000 visitors from across the country. Calvary will host five author sessions from 10am–6pm, and we need volunteers to offer hospitality throughout the day. If you can give a couple of hours to help people feel welcome, see me to sign up.

## **A Personal Note**

My classes at Wake Forest School of Divinity begin again this fall, so my schedule will look a little different. I'm taking three Biblical studies courses — The Five Festival Scrolls (and Jonah), The Book of Revelation, and Grace: Classic and Contemporary Perspectives — plus a Creative Liturgical Writing course. I'll be back and forth between school and Calvary more this semester, but please never hesitate to call the church office or reach me directly if you need me.

My prayer for each of us is a wonderful fall, full of time together and full of adventures. May God bless and keep each of you.

In Christ,  
Amanda



We have had to change the date for Calvary Women's Day; we discovered that the Hispanic Festival will take place in downtown Winston-Salem that very day, and all the streets around Calvary Moravian will be closed by the city! Our new date is Saturday, October 17. And please encourage your sisters — members of Calvary and any friends you have who might like to come — to register! Please register using the link below, or by contacting Pastor Nola who will get you registered.

<https://forms.gle/ZxdVS5QpN9MCkd1j8>

Our theme this year is "Anchored in Community", and we can announce, with great joy, that our speaker this fall is the Rev. Katie Bryant. This is excerpted from her biography on the Augsburg Lutheran Church website: She is Pastor of Youth and Emerging Ministries at Augsburg Lutheran. A founding board member of City with Dwellings, she has led winter overflow shelters for the city since 2014, including the Family Shelter with which we are familiar here! Pastor Katie describes her calling as "to constantly challenge the church to see how God is calling them to be in community with their neighbors."

We look forward to our time of fellowship, worship, learning, and service as sisters in Christ!

Child care will be available.

Questions?

Contact Pastor Nola ([336-722-3703](tel:336-722-3703) • [nola@calvarymoravian.org](mailto:nola@calvarymoravian.org))



## A New Home for Our Youngest Worshipers

This fall, Calvary Moravian is introducing a new way for our youngest members to be part of Sunday worship. Beginning September 13, 2026 (the same Sunday our Sunday school year begins), the back left corner of the sanctuary will become The Children's Corner: a supervised space where our nursery age children can play quietly and worship while remaining right in the room with their families and the rest of the congregation.

### Why We're Doing This?

For years, our traditional nursery has struggled with a shortage of volunteer support, making it harder to offer reliable childcare every Sunday. The Children's Corner offers a different path forward. Rather than sending young children to a separate room, it welcomes them into worship itself, with quiet toys and gentle supervision close at hand, so they can begin to grow familiar with the rhythm of the service: standing for songs, joining in prayer, and simply being present with the church family as it worships together. It's an approach that meets a practical need while also nurturing children's earliest sense of belonging in the sanctuary.

### Where to Find It?

Look for the space at the back of the sanctuary. It will be stocked with quiet toys and "New to the Pew" bags for our younger children, from infants through Pre-K.

### Who Will Be There?

Each Sunday, two familiar and beloved faces, Josephine Rose and Mary Douglas Mendenhall, will be present as our paid childcare workers, joined by a member-volunteer who will also sit in the space with the children. Keeping both Josephine and Mary Douglas involved as often as their schedules allow lets us hold on to two wonderful workers who are genuinely hard to replace, while the rotating member volunteer serves an important additional purpose: they can step in for bathroom breaks or other needs, they're trained and ready in case Josephine or Mary Douglas is ever unavailable, and their presence helps us stay ahead of the upcoming revisions to our Safe Sanctuary policy.

If a child needs a break in the nursery, the member-volunteer will let a parent know, and it remains the parent's responsibility to take their child out of the sanctuary when nursery care is what's needed. The nursery itself won't disappear; the space will still have its livestream of the service running each week for any family who needs it.

We're also hoping to involve our youth. A sign-up or rotation is being considered so that one or two young people can help out in The Children's Corner as well, gaining a meaningful way to serve during worship. And because caring for children within the sanctuary during a live service is a different kind of role than a traditional nursery shift, our Christian Education Committee is planning some intentional conversation and training with everyone involved to help set us up for success.

## What Sunday Mornings Will Look Like?

Our paid worker will arrive at 10:30 AM to set up the nursery livestream for any families who choose that space, then turn to preparing The Children's Corner itself, welcoming children into the space starting at 10:45 AM, ahead of the service.

## Mark Your Calendar

The Children's Corner opens on Sunday, September 13, alongside the first day of Sunday school: a fitting way to launch a new season of faith formation for our children, together. We know this will be a big change for our service and our members at large, at first. This opportunity was discussed at great length in both our Music and Worship and Christian Education Committees, as well as our Joint Board, where it was unanimously approved to try this fall. We expect there might be changes that need to be made along the way, and we know there might be concerns as we try this new endeavor. We ask for your honest and constructive feedback and your patience as we work through the kinks.

## Want to Help?

This new ministry depends on caring volunteers, both adults and youth, willing to sit with our children during worship. If you'd like to sign up for a Sunday, whether as a member volunteer or as part of the youth rotation, please contact the church office or our Nursery Coordinator, Kayla Stewart. We're grateful for every hand that helps our littlest members feel at home in worship.



# DONATIONS FOR WINTER OVERFLOW SHELTER



During the month of September, we will be collecting for some needs of our upcoming Winter Overflow Shelter. We will be collecting Lysol wipes and packs of socks (all sizes, including children). You can drop donations off in the 1st floor stairwell. If you'd prefer to donate monetarily, please put "Overflow Shelter" in the note on your check and we will purchase the supplies. Thank you!

## MEMORIALS

### **Mary Anna Pearson**

Jack & Chi Chi Messick  
Truett & Vicki Chadwick  
Sarah Kane  
Bobby Hoover & Wendolyn Memmer  
Jerry Sullivan  
Frances Swing

### **Sandra Shugart**

Ann Lowe  
Helen Fridy  
David & Joann Mount  
Linda Smith  
Frances Swing

### **Keith Hege**

Frances Swing

### **John Polychron**

Linda Smith

### **Jack & Treva Trivette**

Chese & Sandra Trivette

Please note that this reflects tributes as of August 21st, 2026. All tributes received after that date will be included in the next *Calvary Connections*.

A special thanks to Sabrina Maksi & Carol Middleton for these!

If you have any questions, please contact us by emailing our financial secretary, Sabrina, at [sabrina@calvarymoravian.org](mailto:sabrina@calvarymoravian.org).

# THE CALVARY CONNECTION

Unity. Liberty. Love. Serve.

**The Rev. Dr. Chaz Snider**, *Pastor & Head of Staff*

**The Rev. Dr. Nola Reed Knouse**,  
*Pastor of Congregational Care & Visitation*

**Amanda Schumpert**,  
*Director of Music & Congregational Ministries*

**Jacob Patrick**, *Office & Communications Manager*

**Mary Louise Kapp Peeples**, *Organist*

**Sabrina Maksi**, *Financial Secretary*

**Brian C. Lott**, *Band Director*



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Office Hours  
Mon-Thurs 8 AM-4 PM  
Lunch Hour: 12:30-1:30 PM  
Closed on Fridays

Worship - 11:00 a.m., in person & via live stream  
[www.calvarymoravian.org](http://www.calvarymoravian.org)  
Click on "Live Stream"

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