

# Calvary Family News

## He is Risen Indeed

One of my favorite Easter songs is an old hymn written by [Robert Lowry](#), interestingly enough, the same year that Calvary Baptist Church in Baker City Oregon was established, 1874.

### Christ Arose

*Verse 1:* Low in the grave He lay, Jesus, my Savior,  
Waiting the coming day, Jesus, my Lord!

*Refrain:* Up from the grave He arose, With a mighty triumph o'er His foes  
He arose a Victor from the dark domain, And He lives forever  
with His saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!

*Verse 2:* Vainly they watch His bed, Jesus, my Savior;  
Vainly they seal the dead, Jesus, my Lord!

*Verse 3:* Death cannot keep his Prey, Jesus, my Savior;  
He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Lord!

There are a couple of reasons I like this song. First the lyrics are spot on. Also the way the music was written really adds to the emotion of the song. The verses are sung slowly and sadly like a dirge. Which is appropriate because the first two verses are about Jesus being dead and buried. But the chorus, oh the chorus, that is sung with joyful gusto when “*up from the grave He arose.*”

When you think about Jesus' followers back then I'm sure that is exactly how they experienced His death and resurrection. Extreme sadness when Jesus died such a horrible painful death, followed by exceeding great joy when they realized that Jesus had risen from the grave.

That is what Easter is all about: remembering that Jesus was the perfect Passover lamb who was slain on Good Friday, and the one who burst out of the grave on Sunday to prove that He had defeated sin and death.

Happy Easter, my church family! I pray that we all find joy as we look back to the sacrifice that was made for us and forward to the gift that was purchased on the cross; eternal life with Him.

In His Love,  
Pastor Karl

P.S. My other favorite Easter song is “The Easter Song,” which was written 100 years after Christ Arose. Check out Keith Green's version.

#### PASSOVER MEAL

Friday, April 7th  
In Browning Hall  
At 6pm

#### EASTER SUNRISE

Sunday, April 9th  
7am at Popas  
Meet at 6:45a in church  
parking lot

#### EASTER BRUNCH

Sunday, April 9th  
9-9:45am in  
Browning Hall for  
Pastries & Muffins

#### EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, April 9th  
10:00 am in the  
Worship Center

## Upcoming Special Happenings in April...

**Ladies' First Friday Breakfast**, will be **April 7th**, at 9:00 am, here in Browning Hall, with food and a short devotion and lots of visiting! It will also be Good Friday.

Speaking of Good Friday, a **Passover Meal** will be served on **Good Friday, April 7th**, at 6pm in Browning Hall. Forrest & Mike will prepare the lamb, If you would like to help provide for the meal, please **check sign up sheet** or contact Mike and find out what is needed and when it needs to be there. This is what we are doing as an outreach of Family Fun Night for April this year. Pray and invite your family and friends, and come!



### April Birthdays

- 5 Roger Haefer**
- 10 Forrest Schroeder**
- 11 Josiah Hoeffner**
- 29 Derek Urquhart**

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### Easter Sunday, April 9th

A **Sunrise Service** will be at 7:00 am at the Popa's. If you would like to catch a ride, be in the church parking lot before 6:45am to ride up with someone.

**Easter Brunch**, with muffins and pastries, coffee and juice, will be from 9 - 9:45am in Browning Hall.

**Easter Worship Service** will begin at 10:00 am in the Worship Center. (You will be able to attend all three on Easter Sunday.)



Jan from the **Rachel Pregnancy Center** will be sharing Sunday, **April 16th**, during the values vignette time at our 10 am Worship Service. She will go over their various ministries ministries offered in Baker City.

Our 2nd Quarter Business Meeting will be Sunday, **April 23rd**, right after our Worship Service.

**Men's Prayer Breakfast** will be Friday, **April 22th**, in Browning Hall, a time of fellowship, food and possibly a work project involved, watch for more details....

**Camp Elkanah Work Weekend** will be Friday-Sunday, **April 28th-30th**, to get things ready for summer campers. There is a group headed up Friday afternoon with the church van, spending the night and return Saturday. If you are interested in going up, contact Camp Elkanah and let them know when so you will have food at the table and if you plan to spend the night, a bed to sleep in as well.



**May Newsletter**  
Items are Due to the Church Office or Janice, on **Monday, April 24th**. We would be delighted to spread the word on something upcoming in your life with our church family.

## Words Matter

You and I must never forget that words matter. Time and again, Scripture tells us of the importance of words—both our words and God’s words. Consider what **James 1:18** tells us: God “*of his own will brought us forth by the word of truth.*” The Apostle is talking about the gospel, the announcement of what God has done in Christ Jesus to seek and save the lost.

In New Testament terms, the gospel is the proclamation of the person and work of Jesus Christ and includes how the benefits of that work can be appropriated to us by faith and by faith alone. A proclamation, of course, is made up of words, and if you change the words of the gospel proclamation (or change the meaning of those words), you end up with no gospel at all.

When it comes to conveying the gospel message, the word alone bears particular significance. The infallible authority of Scripture alone tells us that our salvation rests on what Christ alone has done. We benefit from His work by God’s sovereign grace alone, which moves us to trust in Christ alone, all to the glory of God alone. Without the alone, we’ll obscure the gospel or even lose it altogether.

Does God ever fail to save those whom He has chosen to redeem? No, we are redeemed because of His grace alone. Since our redemption rests solely on the mercy of our sovereign God, His grace will always bring about the salvation of His elect people.

Has God provided a Savior who succeeds at every point where I have failed? Yes, Christ alone. As the only Redeemer of God’s elect, He reconciles sinful people to God through His perfect obedience, complete atonement, and triumphant resurrection from the grave.

Must I do something besides trust the promises of God in order to be righteous in His sight? No, for we are justified by faith alone. Our good works contribute nothing to our acceptance by God; only by faith do we lay hold of Christ and receive all the benefits of the gospel. Of course, good works are to follow our conversion, bringing us to the next question.

Does my life have an eternal purpose that means right now counts forever? Yes, for everything we do is to be done for the glory of God alone. He alone is worthy of our utmost devotion, and God’s glory is the ultimate purpose of our salvation and our lives.

In all of those answers, the word alone is vital. Setting it aside can have dreadful consequences. To reject Scripture alone as our supreme authority leaves us to invent “our own truth,” which is no truth. When Christians forget that salvation is the work of God’s grace alone, they can think that the redemption of sinners depends on how attractive we “make” the gospel. If we deny that we’re declared righteous through faith in Christ alone, we’ll lack assurance of salvation. Worse still, by believing that salvation is possible elsewhere besides in Christ alone, we become susceptible to all manner of false “gospels.” And living for anything but the glory of God alone makes us look for purpose where we cannot hope to find it. Identity issues, sexual deviancy, and much more can’t help but result.

(Submitted from [ligonier.org](http://ligonier.org) by Forrest Schroeder)

**2023 Summer VBS team for 2023**, tentatively will be here July 7-14th, to help assist Calvary Baptist Church, and will be the same church youth group as last year. Watch for more details as we get closer and remember them and the children coming in prayer.

## To Lead Ourselves

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...” (Matthew 28:19a)*

Jesus’s parting words to his followers was a command to go to every corner of the world and make disciples, followers of The Way. I don’t know about you, but I know I have not done this well. I would love to say I’ve introduced 10, 20, or 50 people to Christ and discipled them toward maturity, but this just isn’t true. And I suspect it is the same for most of us because if it was true our churches would be overflowing. So why not? Why don’t we see more people being saved? What aren’t we doing?

One thing God has shown me over the past year is that I’ve never been trained to be a disciple let alone equipped to disciple others. I was saved at a Billy Graham Crusade in Seattle, WA in my early teens and sent follow-up materials to support my newfound faith. Materials that far exceeded my ability to understand. While in high school I began attending a community church with a friend and became actively engaged in various youth activities: Bible quizzing, Youth Group, Youth Choir and Sunday School, but never once did any individual seek me out and disciple me in my walk with God. I attended Bible College and became actively engaged in Christian ministry, but again no one walked with me on my journey. I have never been shown (outside of biblical examples) what a discipleship relationship looks like. So when CoVenture was presented as a process in which I could learn to be a leader (disciple, teacher) equipped to lead others I was ALL IN. While the training was challenging it was also valuable and life-changing because it had to begin with me. The journey’s foundation is based on learning to lead myself thereby equipping me to lead others and one aspect of leading myself was in the discipline of prayer.

Praying has always been a battle for me. Some days it feels present and constant but other days it flies out the window; pushed out by the pressures of the day or “lack” of time. Sometimes it feels old and stale and at other times it just feels like it doesn’t really matter. So, what’s different now? The difference is the use of God’s Word to lead and direct my prayer time. I am learning to pray in and through the Scripture while lifting up my requests to my Heavenly Father. What better way to communicate with God than through His divine word. Joni Eareckson Tada in *Speaking God’s Language: Using the Word of God in Your Prayers* said it this way,

*“I have learned to...season my prayers with the word of God. It’s a way of talking to God in his language - speaking his dialect, using his vernacular, employing his idioms...”*

(Torrance, CA: Rose, 2012).

Karl and I have been trying to start our days praying through the upcoming scripture passage for next Sunday’s sermon and then moving into the Psalms. I have been reading and praying through the Psalms in my own personal time as well. Praying God’s Word together as a couple and individually has enlivened and enriched our prayer life and directed our prayer to line up with God’s Word and not just our own wants and desires. What better way to make our request known to God than through His own words? And what better place to learn to lead ourselves than through Scripture reading and biblically based communion and prayer with our Father God.

There is a supernatural quality to the words of Scripture that you pray. Jesus said, ‘The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life’ (John 6:63). When you pray the Bible, you aren’t just praying ordinary words; you are praying words of spirit and life.

(Donald S. Whitney, *Praying The Bible*, Crossway, Wheaton, IL, 2015)

Leading ourselves in prayer is just one part of the transformational journey that we have been on over the past year and the journey has not ended, *“...being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another.” (2 Co. 3:18)* is a lifelong adventure.

If you want to hear more about praying the Scriptures or any other aspect of our transformational journey feel free to ask Dennis, Kelli, Danielle, Karl, or me, we would all be glad to share.

Laurie Wittich

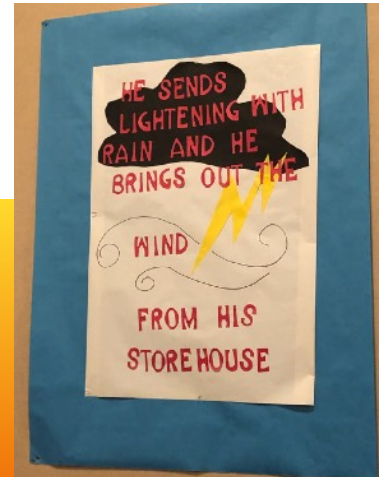
## We Are But a Few

In churches today the thought is often; the bigger the congregation the more successful the church.

Yet in the Bible we see that God most often uses small groups of people and weak men and women as His soldiers. In the story of Gideon, God whittled down an army of 32,000 to 10,000 and then to just 300 men to fight against the armies of the Midianites and Amalekites. They were severely outnumbered in men but God was on their side. The battle was won and God received the glory. We are a smaller church but with God we can win great battles. *Don't be intimidated by our size, God can use us to do great things and He will win the glory.* JMH



Thanks to Karen, Bill and Janice for their artistic work on the boards in Browning Hall. This season's theme is **The Wind.** Check it out.



Please contact the Co-Editors, Janice Haskell and Tamera Pierce, for any feedback, ideas, or submissions. Thank you!


We print something for everyone, even those looking for mistakes! Tamera Pierce





# APRIL 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> <b>Palm Sunday</b> <b>9am Adult</b> <b>Sunday School</b> <b>10a Worship</b> <b>Children's</b> <b>Church or</b> <b>Nursery</b>	 <b>3</b> <b>Back to</b> <b>School!</b>  <b>6pm Youth</b> <b>Group</b> 6pm Men's Bible Study	<b>4</b> 10:00-11 am Ladies Bible Study in Browning Hall	<b>5</b> 11:30-12:30 Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study @ Yvonne's	<b>6</b> 5:00-6:00 pm Community Dinner: <b>Enchiladas!</b> 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery	<b>7</b> <b>9am Ladies</b> <b>Friday</b> <b>Breakfast at</b> <b>CBC</b> <b>6pm Seder</b> <b>Passover</b> <b>Dinner</b> 	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b> <b>Easter</b> <b>7am Sunrise</b> <b>Service</b> <b>9-9:45am</b> <b>Easter Brunch</b> <b>10a Worship</b> <b>Children's</b> <b>Church &amp;</b> <b>Nursery</b>	<b>10</b> <b>6pm Youth</b> <b>Group</b> 6pm Men's Bible Study  	<b>11</b> 10:00-11 am Ladies Bible Study in Browning Hall	<b>12</b> 11:30-12:30 Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study @ Yvonne's	<b>13</b> 5:00-6:00 pm Community Dinner: <b>**</b> 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 
<b>16</b> <b>9am Adult</b> <b>Sunday School</b> <b>10a Worship</b> <b>Children's</b> <b>Church &amp;</b> <b>Nursery</b>	<b>17</b> <b>6pm Youth</b> <b>Group</b> 6pm Men's Bible Study	<b>18</b> 10:00-11 am Ladies Bible Study in Browning Hall	<b>19</b> 11:30-12:30 Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study @ Yvonne's	<b>20</b> 5:00-6:00 pm Community Dinner: <b>Sloppy Joes &amp;</b> <b>Tots &amp; Fluff</b> <b>Salad!</b> 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery  	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> <b>7:30 Men's</b> <b>Breakfast</b> 
<b>23</b> <b>9am Adult</b> <b>Sunday School</b> <b>10a Worship</b> <b>Children's</b> <b>Church &amp;</b> <b>Nursery</b> <b>2nd Q</b> <b>Business Mtg</b>	<b>24</b> <b>6pm Youth</b> <b>Group</b> 6pm Men's Bible Study  	 <b>25</b> 10:00-11 am Ladies Bible Study in Browning Hall	<b>26</b> 11:30-12:30 Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study @ Yvonne's	<b>27</b> 5:00-6:00 pm Community Dinner: <b>**</b> 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery	<b>28</b> <b>Camp Elkanah</b>  	<b>29</b> <b>Work</b> <b>Weekend</b>
<b>30</b> <b>9am Adult</b> <b>Sunday School</b>  <b>10a Worship</b> <b>Children's</b> <b>Church &amp;</b> <b>Nursery</b>	<b>1</b> <b>6pm Youth</b> <b>Group</b> 6pm Men's Bible Study	<b>2</b> 10:00-11 am Ladies Bible Study in Browning Hall	<b>3</b> 11:30-12:30 Ladies Lunchtime Bible Study @ Yvonne's	<b>4</b> 5:00-6:00 pm Community Dinner: <b>**</b> 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery	<b>5</b> 9am Ladies Breakfast at Truck Corral	<b>6</b> 