



Calvary Family News

April 2025

Just a Short-Term Loan

Joseph of Arimathea is kind of a phantom in the New Testament. He is mentioned in all four of the Gospels but in the same context every time. Joseph is never mentioned during the life of Jesus. It is only after the crucifixion does he suddenly appear to do his part in the redemption story.



When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away.

Matthew 27:57-60

John's gospel also tells us that Joseph of Arimathea had been an undercover disciple for fear of the Jews. But when the time came Joseph didn't want his teacher's body thrown into a hole like a common criminal so he got brave, went to the governor and retrieved Jesus' body and placed it in his own tomb. And that tomb had to cost Joseph a lot of money and he gave it away permanently for Jesus to be buried in. Joseph had no idea that this was only a short-term loan.

Turns out Jesus only needed the place for a short weekend. That is the wonder, joy and power of the resurrection. No one expected Jesus to come out of that tomb on his own. Dead people don't do that sort of thing. But on Sunday morning Jesus had moved out proving that God the Father had accepted His sacrifice and showed that He had authority over sin and death. The resurrection of Jesus was a big surprise to even His closest disciples which is even more evidence that it really happened. He is risen indeed!



"An empty grave is there to prove my savior lives"

In Wonder and Awe,

Pastor Karl

Update on Youth Ministry

We have migrated our youth ministry focus from a youth group here at Calvary to serving with YoungLife. This was not a decision we made lightly. Chris & I were both approached to see if we would become YoungLife leaders, we both spent time praying for God's direction and leading. Back in August we went to a meet and greet & find out what YoungLife is all about meeting. We continue to pray and go to the meetings and trainings. We did start youth group back up in the fall when school started, but it was often hit or miss with youth attending. We didn't want to compete with YoungLife which meets on Mondays at 7:07pm and wanted to reach and minister to more youth than we had coming to youth group, so in December when sports were ramping up and the holidays everyone was getting busier we let our teens know that in January we would be going to YoungLife and not having youth group.

We started YoungLife back up on January 27th and had 32 youth show up! We have been going strong ever since and have consistently seen about 15 - 30 kids every week. We are just wrapping up our first full month of YoungLife and things have been going well - even with leaders and teens out sick - we've had a great time! We have been able to regularly go to Eagle Cap school for lunch with some teens. It has been great building relationships with those teens!

We would appreciate your prayers for our leaders, our youth, and our community. We are also praying for a building to rent to set up as our permanent clubhouse.

dp

Passover Seder

April 18th

Please Join our Church family as we come together on Good Friday, April 18th at 6 PM in Browning Hall. We will enjoy a time of fellowship as we enjoy a Seder meal together. We will also spend some time looking at how Jesus was the fulfillment of the Passover when He sacrificed Himself as the perfect Lamb of God. Looking forward to an evening of learning and worship.

KW

Pillars of the Faith

Robert Charles Sproul

February 13, 1939 – December 14, 2017

Dr. Sproul was a highly influential theologian known for his fierce defense and clear teaching of Reformed theology. As an ordained pastor in the Presbyterian Church in America, he dedicated his life to explaining complex theological concepts and making them accessible to a wide audience. His emphasis on the sovereignty of God and the authority of Scripture became foundations of his teaching.

Founding Ligonier Ministries in 1971, he produced an incredible library of resources, including books, lectures, and teaching series, that continue to educate and shape theological understanding. You can still listen to the teachings on the radio/podcast “Renewing Your Mind”.

The central theme of Dr. Sproul's ministry was the holiness of God. He championed the importance of understanding God's absolute purity and righteousness, and how this understanding should shape every aspect of a believer's life. His book "The Holiness of God" is considered a classic, and it has made a serious impact on many readers by challenging them to confront their own sinfulness and appreciate the magnitude of God's grace. He emphasized the importance of understanding who God is.

Beyond his theological comprehension, Dr. Sproul was a gifted communicator. He possessed a unique ability to take complex doctrines and put them into easy to understand terms. Whether through his lectures, writings, or radio broadcasts, his focus was to equip Christians with a solid foundation in biblical truth.

Ligonier Ministries, is a testament to this, it's continued growth, and continued production of educational materials shows the lasting effect of his dedication to educating others.

Kevin Haye

Revelation 22:20 – The Prayer to End All Prayers

“Come, Lord Jesus!”

It's common to hear cries like *“End Injustice!” “End Trafficking!” “End Racism!”*. We as believers should agree whole-heartedly with these cries. And yet, praying *“Come, Lord Jesus!”* raises the bar as high as possible. It includes those cries and several more that are much greater: *“End sin!” “End all suffering!” “End death!”*

Praying *“Come, Lord Jesus!”* asks God to end everything that makes the world broken and asks Him to make all things new. It's the prayer to end all prayers because when Jesus returns, our faith will turn to sight and prayer will no longer be necessary since we will enjoy the presence of our God forever (Revelation 21:3–8).

-Kevin Halleran

F.S

Elect

“Elect” is a term of loving endearment. When you read the Bible, particularly the New Testament, God’s people are consistently referred to as the elect or chosen (**Rom. 8:33; Col. 3:12; 1 Thess. 1:4; 2 Tim. 2:10; 1 Peter 2:9**). This is one of the favorite ways in which the New Testament writers are moved to refer to God’s people. It is the loving purpose of a triune God.

God is making us new. Yet, as we all know, often before you can make something new you have to tear down the old. As God is making us new, He is also tearing down the old, and it does not always feel good. New mind. New affections. New priorities. New conversation. As Paul says, *“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come”* (**2 Cor. 5:17**).

A joyful obedience is the only faithful response to the gospel, the right response to election. The Bible reminds us that our obedience is an obedience of faith (**Rom. 1:5; 16:26**). It is the necessary and faithful consequence of the love of God in choosing sinners to be saved in Christ Jesus, and if we love Christ, we joyfully obey Him (**John. 14:15**).

(Information from Ligonier.org, submitted by F.S.)

Let’s Gather!

Rural Christian Women will be hosting a Free Outreach to encourage the community and Uplift, Encourage and Inspire our community in Faith.

On **Friday night, May 16th**, from 6-7:30pm, at the Nazarene Church, there will be a Guest speaker, music and fellowship, for Men, Women & Families, and Childcare for under 4 years old.

On **Saturday morning, May 17th**, there will be separate sessions for men and women. Men will be at the Harvest Church from 8-9:30am with breakfast, a special message and fellowship time.

Women’s Retreat will be at the Christian Church from 8:30a-12:30p, with childcare. More details will be coming.

tap



April Birthdays

- 10th Forrest Schroeder
- 11th Josiah Hoeffner
- 29th Derek Urquhart

2nd Quarter Business Meeting will be held, Sunday, April 27th, right after our Worship Service, and should not take very long, but will keep us informed of our finances.

Upcoming Events

- April 4th 9am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral**
- April 18th 6pm Seder Meal**
- April 20th Easter**
- April 26th 7:30a-Noon All Church Breakfast & work morning**
- April 27th 2nd Quarter Business Meeting after Worship**
- May 2nd 9am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral**
- May 2nd & 8am -1pm Young Life Yard Sale at Naz Gym***
- May 3rd 8am -1pm Young Life Yard Sale at Naz Gym***

***To donate items for YoungLife Yard Sale, please take them over the day before, May 1st, and the teens will unload them from your vehicle; time to be determined as we get closer.**

May Newsletter Items will be due on Thursday, April 24th. We would love to include your thoughts, ideas and news to strengthen our church ties and help us participate! Thank you for your input, as that keeps the family newsletter interesting!



2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9a Adult Sunday School 10a Worship, Children Church & Nursery	31 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	1 10:30a-1:30p CBC Serves at Senior Center	2 5:30p Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	3 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Good Eats!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	4 9am All Ladies 1 st Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral	5 
6 9a Adult Sunday School 10a Worship, Children Church & Nursery	7 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	8 	9 5:30p Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	10 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Yummy & Delicious!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	11	12 1 pm Allen Miller Celebration of Life at Church with Cookies, Coffee & Tea Reception
13 PALM SUNDAY 9a Adult Sunday School 10a Worship, Children Church & Nursery	14 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	15	16 5:30p Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	17 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Delightful Dinner!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	18 GOOD FRIDAY 6p Passover Seder Meal	19 
20 EASTER 9a Adult Sunday School 10a Worship, Children Church & Nursery	21 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	22	23 5:30p Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	24 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Quintessential Cuisine!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	25	26 7:30a-Noon All Church Breakfast & Work Day
27 9a Adult Sunday School 10a Worship, Children Church & Nursery 2Q Bus Mtg	28 6p Ladie's Bible Study 6p Men's Bible Study 7:07p Young Life at BMS	29 	30 5:30p Prayer & Dinner in Browning Hall	1 5-6pm Community Dinner— <i>Good Grub!</i> 6p Celebrate Recovery	2 9am All Ladies 1 st Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral Camp Elkanah Work Weekend May 2, 3 & 4	3 