



Calvary Family News

June 2026

We Celebrate Celebrate Recovery

As you probably know, every Thursday evening at 6 o'clock, Calvary Baptist Church hosts a Celebrate Recovery meeting right after Community Dinner. CR became part of the ministry of Calvary about seven years ago when we were asked to take it over, mostly because we already had Community Dinner going and it was an extra way to bring people in. At that time there were leaders from different churches in town including our own Mike Popa. Then Covid hit. After shutting down for almost a year, Celebrate Recovery returned, but without many of the leaders and participants. But the Lord has been faithful, and we have continued to provide this ministry through the following years with a number of changes in leadership. There were more than a few nights when the only people at the meeting were the leaders. Dennis became one of the leaders about two years ago. Then something strange happened. Last September we started praying during the Sunday School hour and CR has been one of the most prayed-for ministries. God has responded to those prayers, and after a bit of a reboot at the beginning of 2026, there have been an average of about ten people at the meetings and growing.

So there's the history of CR at CBC. And maybe some of you are wondering "what is Celebrate Recovery anyway and why do we keep doing it?" Glad you asked. **Celebrate Recovery (CR) exists to help people find freedom and healing from their hurts, hang-ups and habits through a relationship with Jesus Christ.** (Their mission statement). CR is a 12-step recovery program similar to Alcoholics Anonymous with one big difference and one really big difference. The big difference is that it's not just about chemical dependency, it's about sin! And we are all addicted to sin. The really big difference is that unlike AA who talk about turning things over to a "higher power" CR is all about the fact that it is only through a relationship with Jesus Christ that anyone can truly be healed.

If you would like to know how you can get involved, you can talk to Dennis or myself, or you could come to a meeting. We would love to have you join us.

Serving Him,

Pastor Karl

The Serenity Prayer

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
the courage to change the things I can,
and the wisdom to know the difference.
Living one day at a time, enjoying one moment at a time;
accepting hardship as a pathway to peace;
taking, as Jesus did, this sinful world as it is, not as I would have it;
trusting that You will make all things right if I surrender to Your will;
so that I may be reasonably happy in this life
and supremely happy with You forever in the next. Amen.

Trusting God in Changing Times

Reuben Hunter

We must surely add to that famous couplet of certainty—“death and taxes”—the inevitability of change. In contrast to our immense, immutable, and impassible God, to be human is to be subject to change in ourselves and in our world. We wish it were not so, but no one is exempt. All around us, people are looking for an answer to the inevitable. For some it is surgery, for others therapy, but the only refuge that truly drives out anxiety is our changeless God who holds all change in His hands. This is one of the lessons that Solomon learned, and passed to us, through the wisdom of Ecclesiastes.

Solomon starts the book of Ecclesiastes by reminding the audience of the unstoppable cycles of change in nature and through generations (Eccl. 1:4). Then, in chapter 3, he connects this change to the sovereignty of God: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven” (Eccl. 3:1).

God is Lord over the times—for everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven. Solomon uses a literary technique that places opposites side by side as a way of saying, “These, and everything in between.” For example, “a time to be born and a time to die” is a way of describing the whole of life with all its changes, from conception to the moment our heart stops beating (Eccl. 3:2). Every activity, every emotion, every experience, every matter under heaven, is determined by God. He is absolutely sovereign over absolutely everything. His plan, His timing, and His rule extend to birth and death, sickness and health, destruction and repair, love and hate, war and peace.

God’s rule even extends to those things that appear to be in our own hands:

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down and a time to build up. (Eccl. 3:3)

These may feel like decisions that humans make, but Solomon puts them alongside laughing and weeping to show that God decides ultimately when they happen (Eccl. 3:4). Indeed, the way the poem is constructed is designed to show our lack of control. There is no pattern or order to casting away possessions, tearing a garment, or keeping silent (Eccl. 3:5–7). It is deliberately random because that is how life often feels. One moment you are mourning a loss, the next you are embracing a friend, the next you are dancing with your spouse, all the while you feel hatred at the injustices you see around you, and war rumbles on around the world.

To be clear, where there is sin, God is not the author. Sin is the responsibility of the sinner, while God remains sovereign, superintending all things. God is the author of every change and He has a time for us to be promoted and to be fired, to be criticized and to be praised, to receive the cancer diagnosis and to get the all clear, to conceive and to miscarry, to be betrayed and to be shown loyalty, to have our investments grow and to have them crash, to be honored and to be dishonored, to be at war and to be at peace. God has set the times of them all. He has given these things to us from His hand; we are not in charge.

So much of our anxiety and distress in the changing seasons of life is due to the fact that we are not in control. And yet, trying to control these times and seasons, and even trying to understand why God sends them, is too great and marvelous a thing for anyone but Him (Ps. 131:1). Change is inevitable. We can’t leverage things for our gain. We are, quite simply, caught up in an adventure without the map. But faithful, wise living means we embrace this, rather than resist it.

In the face of change, we must take our anxious hearts to the cross of Christ. It is there we see that God had a time for His Son to be crucified. As Jesus hung in shame and disgrace, no one looking on would have said that this looked like a winning idea, and yet it was in this greatest evil in history that God was accomplishing the greatest good the world has ever seen—the salvation of His people. And just as there was a time for His Son to die, there was also a time for Him to be raised.

In God’s time, every death in His kingdom is followed by a resurrection. This means that we can say with Solomon,

There is nothing better . . . than to be joyful and to do good as long as [we] live; also that everyone should eat and drink and take pleasure in all his toil—this is God’s gift to man. (Eccl. 3:12–13)

We can trust that in whatever changes come our way, “God has done it, so that people fear before him” (Eccl. 3:14). We follow Solomon’s lead and by faith say that God is Lord of the times and these things are all beyond our control, so we will not worry because He has made everything fitting.

(Submitted by F.S.)

Women’s Camps for the Summer

Sadly, the Ladies’ must choose between Two Opportunities, as they are at the same time, from Friday, July 31st – Sunday, August 2nd.

Ladies’ Retreat at Camp Elkanah, *Faithless Women, Faithful God,* Old Testament Study with Jena Pendelton, Speaker, located near LaGrande Oregon. (scholarships available)

Women’s Camp at Camp Tadmor: *Shaken, yet Steadied, Psalm 46:1,* Rebecca Small Speaker, located near Lebanon Oregon.

Online Registration is now open for both.



Men’s Fall Camp

Camp Tadmor, Men’s Round Up... is Friday, September 11th – Sunday, September 13th. Early registration has started. Contact Dennis for info.



Rachel Center



As the 2026 Rachel Center Baby Bottle Drive comes to an end on Father’s Day Sunday, June 21st, it’s time to turn in our monetary gifts to be used for their ministries. You can turn them in to the church, they will be returned to the Rachel Center, or you can run it over to them Tuesday-Thursday 10 am- Noon & 1-4 pm, 2192 Court Ave, Baker City OR, and get a better understanding of their ministries, programs, and inviting it feels for babies, and their families.

We can also keep them in mind by praying daily for their ministries, for the folks that come in for support, hear the gospel and come to Christ and see God’s love for them through the ministry.




June Birthday
9 Diana Haye

We will be worshipping with Other Churches at the God & Country Rally on Sunday, July 5th, in Geiser-Pollman Park. More details to come.

July Newsletter Items due June 30th.



HELLO JUNE 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	1 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	2 10:30a -1pm CBC Serves at Sr Center	3	4 5-6 pm Community Dinner-Ham & Scalloped Potatoes 6pm Celebrate Recovery	5 9am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast Truck Corral	6
7 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	8 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	9 3-4 pm Ladies' Bible Study in Browning Hall	10	11 5-6 pm Community Dinner— Bagel Pizzas 6pm Celebrate Recovery	12	13
14 Flag Day 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	15 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	16	17	18 5-6pm Community Dinner— 6pm Celebrate Recover	19	20
21 Father's Day & Rachel Baby Bottle Drive Ends 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	22 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	23 3-4 pm Ladies' Bible Study in Browning Hall	24	25 5-6pm Community Dinner— 6pm Celebrate Recover	26	27
28 9am Prayer/SS 10am Worship Children's Church & Nursery	29 6pm Men Bible Study 6pm Ladies' Bible Study	30  Newsletter Items Due.	1	2 5-6pm Community Dinner— 6pm Celebrate Recover	3 9am Ladies' First Friday Breakfast Truck Corral	4 of July