

Calvary Family Newsletter

May 2025

Working for the Prize

I don't know about you, but I'm tired. I'm not complaining, it's the good kind of tired. The kind of tiredness you get when you have a lot of things to do, but you are able to keep going because progress is being made, things are improving, and there is a payoff at the end of the labor. The same is true for our spiritual lives. There are always things that need to be done to keep ourselves focused on the Lord.

That brings me back to review our church ministry statement, the **GC3**. The **G**reat **C**ommandment, the **G**reat **C**onfession, and the **G**reat **C**ommission. Being involved in ministries that are centered on these three things can be labor intensive and even exhausting, mostly because it means getting involved in people's lives, and that honestly can be a lot of work.

First of all, the Great Commandment: Love God, Love People. The kind of love this is talking about isn't just having good intentions for someone, wishing them well. Love is a verb, an action word and we show folks that we love them by what we do, more than what we think about them or even say to them.

Next is the Great Confession: Proclaim Christ. That flows out of our love for God and our love for people, especially those who don't have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Loving someone towards the kingdom can be long, difficult work. But experiencing the joy of someone coming to know Christ is well, worth all the effort.

Lastly, the Great Commission: Making Disciples. This means pouring your life into someone or someones, teaching and encouraging them in their walk with Christ. This involves a time commitment and a willingness to be open and vulnerable with the people you minister with. Ministry can be demanding, whether you are paid or not. If people in need are calling you at all hours, day or night, you are probably doing it right. We need to keep our eyes on those we are ministering to and more importantly the One we are ministering for.

Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Serving Him,
Pastor Karl





May Birthdays

- 5 Kevin Haya
Diane Bernardy
Dave Hoeffner
- 9 Sue Schroeder
- 11 Kelli Wright
Crystal Pierce
Mother's Day
- 16 Clea Sword
- 25 Beulah Shumway
- 26 Memorial Day

Save the Date

Family Camp at Camp Elkanah

August 29-31

Circle your calendar for the last weekend in August because we are going to camp! Calvary Baptist of Baker City will be teaming up with our sister church, Calvary Baptist of Cove for a weekend at Camp Elkanah. It should be a great time to get away from the big city and relax under a tree, learn about our Lord, meet new people, enjoy good food, and have a lot of fun. More details to follow but plan for it now so we can take advantage of this opportunity.

kww



June Newsletter Items

should be turned in on or before Tuesday, May 27th. This is a great time to share news, share thanks to others, or any other news you wish to share for upcoming events. Thanks for making this **Our Church Newsletter!**



Let's Gather with other Churches & Invite Friends to be Encouraged!

Friday, May 16th, 6-7:30p at Naz meeting all together for a special speaker;
 Saturday, May 17th, We do our own things Guys 8:30a at Harvest Church-Breakfast
 Gals at 8:30 at Christian Church-Breakfast and Mini-Retreat and Renewal.
 Use signup sheets in foyer, call CBC office or online and more information at Rural Christian Women- Eastern Oregon FB page.
If your schedule frees up and not registered, just come and join us!



Caught in the Act

When I showed up at the church with Sunday stuff, on Saturday, April 26th, I caught several folks (including some newcomers) working hard on various projects-- leaf blowing, scaping off peeling paint on the Broadway side of the building, freezers being cleaned out-as they were finishing up, cleaning and dusting in the sanctuary and entryway. I did miss the vacuuming of areas, tree trimming, power-washing outside, putting up the Celebrate Recovery sign and I am sure other things, as they were very, fast workers! I got there in time to say goodbye as some were headed home. On Thursday I was there for moral support on putting in a new kitchen hot water heater so that in a few hours the dinner crew would not have to heat up water on the stove for dishes. tap



Union with Christians

In **Ephesians 1:15** and **Colossians 1:4**, Paul commends his readers for their “*love for all the saints.*” We would do well to foster such a spirit. We should not treat professing Christians in our families, on our jobs, and in our neighborhoods as if they had a contagious disease when we have minor doctrinal differences with them. Rather, we should see them as those for whom Christ died. We should not be ready to attack on those points of disagreement but to seek gracious ways to show them a more excellent way. If meekness and humility are to characterize how we defend the faith before unbelievers (**1 Peter 3:15**), how much more should we strive for this spirit in our dealings with other Christians?

In addition to motivating us to deal with other Christians with civility and love, our union with Christ ought also to govern how we view Christians throughout the world that we may never see face to face in this life. Apart from denominational mission support or the occasional visit from an actual foreign missionary to a local church in an effort to gain support, most American Christians are simply unaware of what other Christians endure and suffer because of their faith. In no way do I mean this as an indictment. It is simply a reminder that union with Christ and the communion of the saints ought to enlarge our vision of the body of Christ and the diverse circumstances and situations that many of our brothers and sisters face. I’m sure that most of us share in financial support for missionaries and mission work. American Christians have proven to be very generous in providing relief and aid when disaster strikes in any part of the world. But as we wrap our minds around the concept of our union with Christ and the communion of the saints, I pray that we would make room in our personal and corporate prayers for brothers and sisters in any number of situations.

A number of years ago, I was conducting interviews at a major Christian event and was approached by a brother who asked me to interview a gentleman that he was supporting from a sub-Saharan African country. As it turned out, the gentleman that I was being asked to interview was an African pastor who had devoted his life to purchasing the freedom of Christians who had been taken by Muslims as prisoners of war and sold as slaves. We should think about underground churches in different countries, as well as inmates and those who minister to inmates here or abroad. Union with Christ and the communion of the saints should cause us to see that the struggles of these Christians are our struggles as well.

Let us not be so consumed with what is happening in our part of the vineyard that we do not see the glory of Christ in the lives and issues of brothers and sisters purchased by the same blood, who uphold the same faith.

Let no one boast in men. For all things are yours, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or the world or life or death or the present or the future—all are yours, and you are Christ’s, and Christ is God’s. (1 Cor. 3:21–23)



May 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	28 6p Men's Bible Study 6p Women's Bible Study 7:07p YoungLife @ BMS	29	30 5:30 p Prayer & Dinner	1 National Day of Prayer 5-6p Community Dinner—Mac & Cheese, Ham & Green Beans 6p Celebrate Recovery	2 8a-1p YoungLife Yard Sale at BC Nazarene Gym 9am Ladies' 1ST Friday Breakfast at Truck Corral Camp Elkanah Work Weekend	3
4 Camp Work Weekend 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	5 6p Men's Bible Study 6p Women's Bible Study 7:07p YoungLife @ BMS	6 	7 5:30 p Prayer & Dinner	8 5-6p Community Dinner 6p Celebrate Recovery	9	10
11 Mother's Day 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	12 6p Men's Bible Study 6p Women's Bible Study 7:07p YoungLife @ BMS	13	14 5:30 p Prayer & Dinner	15 5-6p Community Dinner 6p Celebrate Recovery	16 6-7:30pm Let's Gather ALL Together at the BC Naz Church	17 8-9:30a Guys at Harvest for breakfast 8:30a- Noon30 for Ladies at Christian Church
18 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	19 6p Men's Bible Study 6p Women's Bible Study 7:07p YoungLife @ BMS	20	21 5:30 p Prayer & Dinner	22 5-6p Community Dinner—Sheet Pan Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup 6p Celebrate Recovery	23	24 
25 9am Adult Sunday School 10am Worship, Children's Church & Nursery	26 Memorial Day	27	28 5:30 p Prayer & Dinner	29 5-6p Community Dinner 6p Celebrate Recovery	30	31