



Careline newsletter

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF CALVARY BAPTIST
NOVEMBER 2018

BEING SIMPLY THANKFUL

When it all comes down to it, what are you thankful for? This month's letter from Pastor Dennis takes a look at being thankful for simple things, which does not mean they aren't profound or lasting.

Oh be thankful for the good things that you got! This is my favorite holiday of the year. We convolute this time with black Friday and Cyber sales and we miss the opportunity to just sit down and reflect. We celebrate for a moment and then we focus on getting stuff instead of reflecting on the blessings that we have had and have right now. We are a blessed people.

This year I can honestly say that I am thankful for my parents. With mom passing on to be with the Lord, things have been brought into a closer perspective. She was the last of her generation on both sides of my family. The last mom, the last of the aunts, the last of all the cousins of her time and now she has been laid to rest. So now I have to realize that I have been blessed to have had her for all these years.

It seems kind of funny though, that at the end of her life we learn things that we never knew about her. And some things that we thought we knew, were not actually true. For instance, I was always told that my mom's mom was half Native American and that would make me about an eighth Native American Indian at most. Well, I did the Ancestry.com DNA test and if it is correct, I am less than 2% Indian and mostly a white boy from Great Britain, Ireland and Sweden. We were also supposed to have a majority of German in our family's ethnic makeup, but that didn't seem to pan out either. I told my brother about all of these discrepancies and like a good big brother he said, "I think you were adopted!" and we just laughed.

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Church Events

- 11.5—BBA Luncheon
- 11.14—Operation Christmas Child Packing Party
- 11.17—Men's Breakfast
- 11.18—Thanksgiving Celebration Service and Banquet (No SS)
- 11.19—Stroke Scan on CBC Campus
- 11.21—No Activities
- 11.22—Thanksgiving!
- 11.23—Christmas Decorating Team
- 11.25—CBC Feeds TSU Football Players
- 11.28—CBC Feeds BSM Students

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Really though, in the end, all of that information doesn't really matter a whole lot. The main thing that I reflect back upon the good things that my parents taught me and the fact that they raised me in church and gave me the opportunity to meet Jesus Christ. Wow! What greater gift of parenting can be bestowed on a child than that? We get so busy doing all kinds of "stuff and fluff" with and for our kids, that really aren't going to matter in the end. I see many missing the opportunity to really impact their children's lives for eternity. That was the focal point in our home; what will you do with Jesus? I remember the night that I got saved in Vacation Bible School. It was a very simple message that James Robinson shared on John 3:16 and it impacted my life forever. The first person I ran to tell about it was my mom. Mom had served as the Nursery Coordinator for 35+ years at Thomas Avenue Baptist Church and she was busy in the 2 year old class that day teaching and taking care of those kids while their moms and dads were leading out in VBS. I ran in, hugged my mom and said, "I just asked Jesus to come into my heart!" I know there are some that will say, "That was just too easy!" I can only say, "Praise God! He made it so easy!" I can also praise God for parents that lived godly lives in front of me every day, encouraged me in that decision, and kept me in church. There are so many things about my parents that I am so thankful for! For my dad's consistency in his walk with the Lord at work and home. A lot of great memories about things he said and did that still impact my life today.

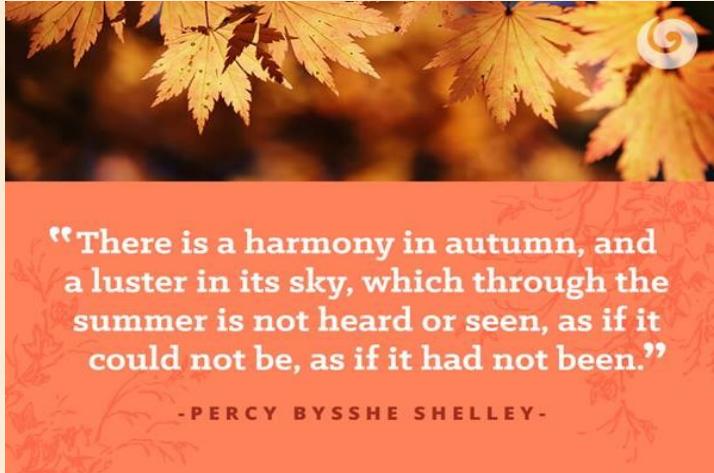
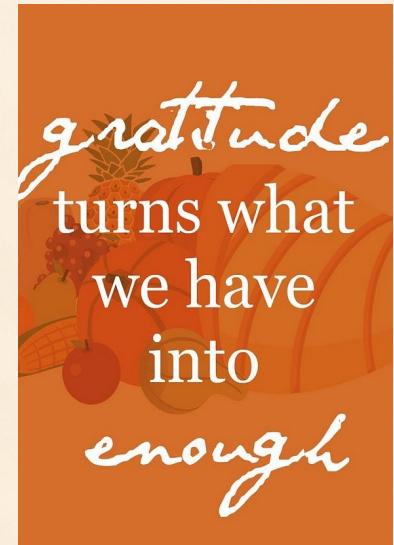
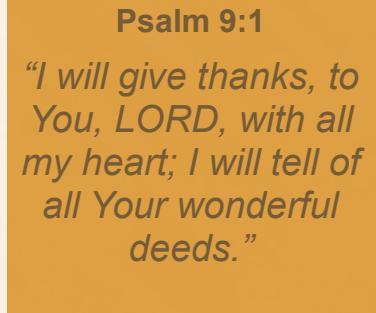
I am grateful for my mom's determined parenting in that we were going to behave and that included any friends that we drug home. I got reminders and spankings when needed from Mom.(probably a lot more than I would admit) Someone gave me a paddle ball game for "Pastor Appreciation." It was something small, but it was meaningful, as it brought back a lot of childhood memories, not just of spankings but also making cookies, homemade birthday cakes, chocolate fudge pie, and just good simple home-cooked meals. I guess it was just a different time but it was a blessed time for me! I knew that I was loved and cared for growing up. There were never big splashes or extravagant parties, but simple times that were very impactful.

As I sit here proofreading what I've written so far, I guess the main thing is, "Praise God for the simple things in life!" They are what impacted my life for the good and in many ways, the eternal! Thank you Mom and Dad for the simple things in life!

Thank You God for allowing me to have the parents that You gave me, who loved me enough to impact my life in simple ways that were so good, but were also life-changing! May we have the a heart in the parenting and grand-parenting of our children that would do the same for them.

Because of Christ,

Bro. D



Our Motivation In Giving

As we enter the holiday season many people have giving on their mind. May we stop for a second and consider the question, why do we give gifts? What is our motivation? When you think about it there really is a host of reason why people give gifts.

The first and foremost motivation is because we love the person receiving the gift. We love our parents, our kids, our relatives, our friends, our boss, our co-workers, etc etc. This is our strongest motivation, we give because we love.

What about other motivations? Do we give out of duty? "Everyone at the office pitched in, so I have to"....."Aunt Velma always gives me something, so I have to get her something"... etc etc. Are we giving because we would feel guilty or embarrassed if we don't?

Do we give out of a desire to be recognized? Many charitable organizations publish names of their donors. Donors are recognized with plaques and publicity. Admit it... is there anyone who desires to be known as a cheap, miserly skinflint? Of course not! We all want to be known as a generous person, but we all must be aware of the intoxicating lure of public recognition.

Do we give because we have been taught to give? Think of your parents, what did they have to give in raising you? Did they talk and show you how to give? Were they a model of generosity? What about friends and relatives who have modeled a lifestyle of generosity? Have they impacted your thinking?

Most importantly, consider God's motivation for giving. It's clearly stated in that famous verse "For God so LOVED the world, that he GAVE his only begotten son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16) God gives because He loves. This is our model of generosity. God's gift of his Son is the greatest, most expensive, most timeless, most loving gift of all. God gave his Son because God looks at the "big picture." He saw mankind's need for a Savior, and so He gave to make a way to satisfy that need.

Calvary Baptist Church is God's vehicle to share his great gift of love to the world. The best way for us to see the "big picture" is to look through the lens of our local body of believers. Your gift furthers the cause of making God known to a world that needs Him. Won't you please consider your motives, then if God leads you, consider a Christmas gift to Calvary Baptist Church this year? When you give out of love, then needs are met and the "big picture" comes into view.

God Bless,

John Clarke

Gratitude is an offering precious in the sight of God, and it is one that the poorest of us can make and be not poorer but richer for having made it. A.W. Tozer

Calvary Events Calendar

November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Caleb Martin	2 April Rodriguez 11:00 Baby Shower for Debra Aziz	3 Kate Doring Sarah Trumbull <i>CBC Hosts Fishers of Men Breakfast—8:30 AM Emily Brink Shower 10:00 AM</i>
4 <i>Regular AM/PM Schedule</i>	5 Hector Garcia	6 <i>Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner 6:30—Meeting</i>	7 Lupe Cortez <i>Regular Schedule</i>	8 Bella Bailey Jim Yandell <i>6:30 PM Praise Team/Band Rehearsal</i>	9	10
11 <i>Regular AM/PM Schedule</i>	12 <i>Visitation/Outreach Teams—7 PM</i>	13 Cathy Dowling Joanna Kidd <i>Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner</i>	14 Dean Leach <i>6:30 PM Operation Christmas Child Packing Party!</i>	15 Jay Bryson <i>6:30 PM Praise Team/Band Rehearsal</i>	16 Lisela Austin	17 <i>Tammy Holland Ruth Rice</i> <i>Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM</i>
18 <i>10:00 AM Thanksgiving Celebration Service & Banquet (No Sunday School) PM—CBC goes to Maranatha (in S.A.)</i>	19	20 <i>Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner 6:30—Meeting</i>	21 Jenny Humphrey Carolyn Peters <i>Church Office Closes at Noon No Evening Activities</i>	22 	23 <i>Church Office Closed Christmas Decorating Team</i>	24
25 <i>Regular AM Schedule No Regular PM Church PM—CBC Feeds TSU Football Team</i>	26	27 Emalyn Doring Danielle Edison <i>Celebrate Recovery 6:00—Dinner 6:30—Meeting</i>	28 Larry Barnett Benny Rice <i>CBC Hosts BSM Noon Lunch on campus</i>	29 Kenneth Dees Georgia Katzer	30	

UPCOMING MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

Operation Christmas Child

You can help change the life of a child at Christmas with a shoebox filled with love and the message of the Gospel. Boxes are displayed all around CBC right now, so grab a box, fill it up, bring it back by November 11 OR pack your box at our packing party on Wednesday, November 14 @ 6:30 PM. For more information, contact Miranda Whitehouse at 512-787-0678 or miranda@calvarysanmarcos.com

Sunday, November 18

Not only do we get to enjoy a Thanksgiving Celebration with great food following, but you can invite your friends, neighbors or co-workers! Then that night, we join with Maranatha Bible Church in Converse for a night of fun and fellowship!

Sunday, November 25

CBC has been invited to help feed Texas State Football Players at an event hosted by Fellowship of Christian Athletes. We would take a team of 8—10 people to help serve the food that evening. If you're interested in this opportunity to reach out to students, contact Randy McDaris to sign up to help.

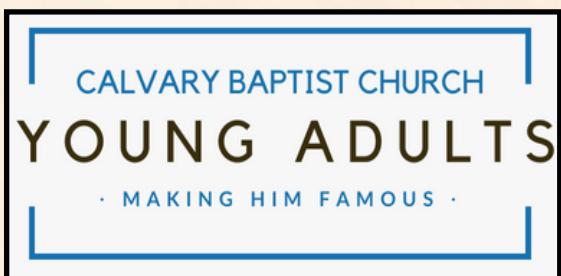
Wednesday, November 28

Once again, CBC will host the Baptist Student Mission's "Noon Lunch" on campus. We will be supplying the food and the service of food. SO...we're asking for COOKIES—LOTS of COOKIES—to feed 225—250 students. Also, if you are available to come help us serve, please contact our church office or speak to a staff member. We'd love to have you serve with us that day!



**“Every leaf speaks
bliss to me, fluttering
from the autumn tree.”**

—EMILY BRONTE



**Wednesday Night
Small Group Study
8:00 PM**
**Food donations welcome!
See Randy McDaris for info!**



*LifeCare Creations is in
need of Artisans,
Craftsmen, Artists, and
those willing to make
beautiful and useful
things for individuals or
families facing
unplanned pregnancy.*

*Check out KIOSK #3 in the auditorium to see
examples of what's been made. Join us!*

*1st and 3rd Mondays @ 2:00 PM
Contact Diana Owen @ 512-787-8497*



Church-Wide Packing Party!
Wednesday, 11/14 @ 6:30 PM
**See Miranda Whitehouse for details
about other ways you can help.**