

Careline newsletter

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
NOVEMBER 2020

THANKFUL IN ANY SEASON

Given the year we've all been living through, we can find ourselves unsure of how or what there is to be thankful about. Pastor Dennis looks at the subject of how we can be thankful even in the most stressful of times.

November is the month of thanksgiving and I, for one, know one thing that I will be thankful for and that is that the election will be over and the political ads, calls, texts and signs will disappear. I hope each of you exercised your privilege to vote and that you voted according to Biblical principles. It really doesn't matter what party your mama or your great-granddaddy belonged to if the candidate representing that party holds values that are contrary to the values of God as expressed in His Word. I know some folks who are Christians, they know the Lord Jesus, walk with Him, read His Word, and will still vote for a godless, candidate with immoral platform ideas because they are loyal to a party. Listen up Jesus people, if you claim to belong to the Lord, then your vote belongs to Him as well. Think about it. If you are voting for a candidate based on party and that candidate's platform goes against God's values, I venture to say

to you in love and with warning that you are voting incorrectly. As a Christian, what good does it do to vote against the God of the universe that you claim to follow? You are setting yourself, your culture and your government up against the Lord and His morals, His values. Where scripture is silent on certain issues, we must follow the values as expressed in scripture to the best of our ability, but where scripture is not silent, where it is explicit, we must stand with God or we stand against him. One example is, God values life. ALL HUMAN LIFE MATTERS TO GOD and so...ALL HUMAN LIFE should matter to His people as well. So in looking at candidates, look for someone who doesn't violate a basic moral such as that. Having said that, I trust that you will vote for the candidate in whatever office whether local, state or federal that best represents and promotes the values of our God.

Mark Your Calendars

- 11.11—Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes Due**
- 11.14—Memorial Service for Raymond Cipple son of Frances Cipple**
- 11.17—Memorial Service for Dale Haney**
- 11.22—CBC Thanksgiving Celebration Gathering & Banquet**
- 11.25—Church Office Closes at Noon thru 11.28 No Evening Activities**
- 11.26—Thanksgiving Day**
- 11.27—Christmas Decorating Begins — all help is Welcomed!**
- 11.29—First Sunday of Advent Season**

I will also share this thought with you. Even the godless ruler can be used to accomplish the purposes of God. So, take heart in HIS sovereignty! God can use even the most wicked and ungodly person to accomplish and advance His will. Scripture is plain on that in so many instances I won't list them all, but I'll share with you the amazing life of Daniel, who lived in one of the most pagan and ungodly eras in human history in Babylon. God used each of the wicked men who ruled that kingdom to advance His purposes and His will. From King Nebuchadnezzar all the way to Cyrus the Great, Daniel trusted in the God of heaven to work His plan in and through every kingdom and every king. In the second chapter of the book of Daniel, he stated:

"Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding."

Let's not make the mistake of thinking God cannot handle whatever the political or cultural changes may bring to our lives and to our country. He is in control — always has been and always will be. Let's stand with Him and let's trust in His Word, His ways, and His wisdom.

Moving on to other issues, this year has been a rough in dealing with COVID19. This virus has impacted our entire world. Again, the same principle applies. We need always remember WHO is sitting on the throne of the universe. God Almighty is not caught off guard. He is fully aware of our needs, and promises to walk with us through whatever we may face in this world. There are all kinds of responses to this virus, from those that are carefree, to those that are very susceptible and are in total seclusion. Please reach out so we can minister to you if you or someone you love is dealing with this virus. We may not be able to do anything medically, but we can minister in some way.

*"And He changes the times
and seasons; He removes
kings and raises up kings;
He gives wisdom to the wise
and knowledge to those who
have understanding."
—Daniel 2:21—*

In all of this let us not lose faith, and let us not live in fear. The scripture tells us, "God does not give us the spirit of fear but of love." 2 Timothy 1:7 I just want to encourage you, to be found faithful, where ever you are. When I was a boy and in a fearful state, I found that fear would leave when I ran to the safe haven of my dad and mom's love. In like manner, run to the Father and watch fear leave as you live and abide in His love. Then allow His love to shine through you to help others. People need hope in these times and they are certainly not going to see it in the news or in culture around us. Let God use us, use you, as His hands and feet here on earth as the Church.

In the season of thanksgiving, let us, the Church, lead the charge of what it looks like to live a life of thankfulness. We have so much for which we can be thankful!

I also want to thank you as a church for your faithfulness to the Lord's work. For those that are stepping up to serve in vital areas like greeting and counseling and teaching classes in person. As people return and their children return, we need your help and are grateful for your service! For those that are more susceptible or work with people who are, we miss you, but we are grateful for digital mediums to be able to connect with you. Keep connecting! And lastly, thank you for your faithfulness in giving so that ministry can continue. Some of you are ministering to one another in ways that I never will and your faithfulness is deeply inspiring! As your pastor I love you and do appreciate all that you do.

Finally, as Thanksgiving approaches, look back over this past year at all that God has blessed you with. Purpose to finish the year out with praise and thanksgiving, trusting Him for what might lie ahead. 1 Thess. 5:18 says, "In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

Because of Christ,
Bro. Dennis



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Caleb Martin <i>Regular AM Schedule</i>	2	3 Kate Doring Sarah Trumbull <i>Celebrate Recovery</i> 6:30 PM	4 <i>Regular Schedule</i>	5 Hector Garcia <i>Praise Team & Band Rehearsal</i> 6:30 PM	6	7 Lupe Cortez
8 Bella Bailey Jim Yandell <i>Regular AM Schedule</i>	9	10 <i>Celebrate Recovery</i> 6:30— Meeting	11 <i>Regular Schedule</i>	12 <i>Praise Team & Band Rehearsal</i> 6:30 PM	13 Cathy Dowling Joanna Kidd	14 Dean Leach 10:00 AM <i>Memorial Service For Ray Cipple Son of Frances Cipple</i>
15 Jay Bryson <i>Regular AM Schedule</i>	16 Liesela Austin 10:00 AM <i>Memorial Service for Dale Haney</i>	14 Tammy Holland Ruth Rice <i>Celebrate Recovery</i> 6:30— Meeting	18 <i>Regular Schedule</i>	19 <i>Praise Team & Band Rehearsal</i> 6:30 PM	20	21 Carolyn Peters
22 10:30 AM <i>Annual Thanksgiving Celebration Gathering and Banquet (NO SS TODAY)</i>	23	24 <i>Celebrate Recovery</i> 6:30— Meeting	25 <i>Office Closes at Noon</i> <i>No PM Activities</i>	26 Happy Thanksgiving! <i>Office Closed</i>	27 Emalyn Doring Danielle Edison 10:00 AM <i>Christmas Decorations Team All Welcome!</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	28 Larry Barnett
29 Kenneth Dees Georgia Katzer <i>Regular AM Schedule</i> <i>First Advent Sunday</i>	30					

Thanksgiving Celebration
 WORSHIP GATHERING
 BANQUET FOLLOWING

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22
 10:30 AM