



# CALVARY Connections

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH  
IDAHO FALLS, ID | MAY 2024

## The “Foolishness” of The Cross

*...From Pastor Matt*

There is so much noise in our culture today. People desperately clamoring to be heard, to be right, to be vindicated. The 24-hour news cycle and social media make everyone an expert and everyone a victim. How does the follower of Jesus maneuver through all of this white noise? How do we glorify God, love our neighbor, and tell others about Jesus?

I believe the Word of God tells us in 1 Corinthians, chapter one, that we have to lay aside our desire to be recognized as right. We must abandon our search for approval or respect from the culture. We must never play the victim. The Apostle Paul tells us, “For the Word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” (1 Cor. 1:18) We do not seek glory, wisdom, or grace from the surrounding culture. We glory in the cross. We are fools for Christ.

Paul goes on to say, “God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.” (1 Cor. 1:28-29) We the church of the Living God are nothing, but in Jesus we possess everything. How do we glorify God? We seek Him above any other thing or person. How do we love our neighbor? We lay aside our crusade for self and in humility put others first. How do we tell others about Jesus? We abandon the wisdom of the world and proclaim the foolishness of the cross. We risk our reputation as “respectable” people to become fools for Jesus. No one said this would be easy. But in obedience there is the joy of the Lord.

In Christ,

Pastor Matt

## Church Events

- May 4<sup>th</sup> Penalber Potluck
- May 5<sup>th</sup> Live Nativity Mtg
- May 12<sup>th</sup> MOTHER’S DAY
- May 19<sup>th</sup> VBS Meeting
- May 21<sup>st</sup> Last Prayer & Praise until August
- May 23<sup>rd</sup> Last Men’s AM Bible Study until Fall
- May 27<sup>th</sup> MEMORIAL DAY
- May 28<sup>th</sup> Last Tuesday Student Ministry until Fall

*Happy  
Mother’s  
Day!!*

# Some activities will be taking a break for summer

As usual, with many members taking summer vacations and involved in summer activities, many of our winter term activities will take a break before resuming in the fall.

- Prayer & Praise Night will break after the last meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup>; this will resume in August.
- Men's AM Bible Study will have its last meeting the same week, on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Student Ministry, which meets on Tuesday evenings, will break after May 28<sup>th</sup>. There will be some activities during the summer about once a month, so be sure to watch your notifications.
- Sunday Night Bible Study will also break for the summer after this Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. The study in John is completed, and a new study will begin sometime in September.



Old Faithful Christian Ranch is a camp located in Island Park, ID, on the way to Yellowstone National Park. Every summer there are children's camps held for grades 4-5; 6-7; 8-9; and 10-12, including 2024 grads.

Christian summer camp is a tremendously rewarding experience for young people, getting them thinking about their relationship with Jesus in a wholesome atmosphere of love and acceptance. Bus transportation is available, and Calvary assists members with a **\$100 scholarship** for the first 10 registrations. As always, if fees are an obstacle, other scholarships are available. More information is available in the foyer.

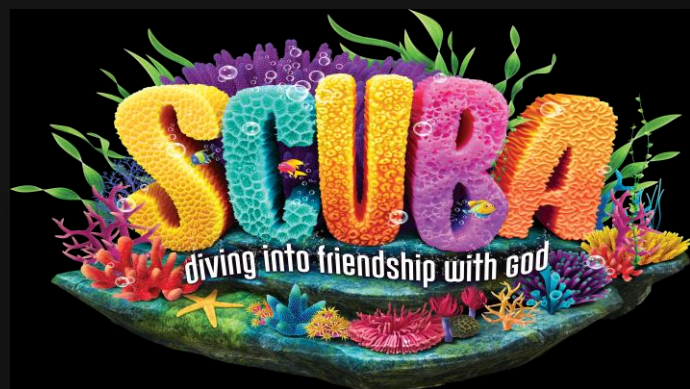


Announcing the birth of Gabriel Shepherd Naylor, son of Steven and Lindi (Griffel) Naylor, on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Lindi is a former member of Calvary and the daughter of Cathy and Lewis Blurton. Lindi and Steven now live in Grangeville, Idaho, on the western border of the state.

## Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Penalber Invite You to a Celebratory Potluck Dinner

*Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 5-7pm,  
Calvary Baptist Church Youth Room*

Celebrating their recent marriage, Tyler and Tori Penalber will host a potluck meal on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7:00pm, which will take place in the Youth Room at Calvary Baptist Church. The main dish will be provided; you are asked to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Come on down and enjoy good food, fellowship, and the chance to congratulate the newlyweds on their marriage!



### *VBS Volunteer Meeting Scheduled for May 19*

The theme for VBS this year is "SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God." This fun program will feature an ocean theme with friendly sea creatures who help children learn important truths about God.

There will be an important Volunteer Meeting on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> for all those interested in helping out. There are plenty of opportunities to help, including story time, snack time, decorating, recreation, group leader, crafts, and much more! There is sure to be a place for you to use your God-given gifts and talents for His glory.

Deana Peoples is the committee leader and will have materials to preview and information on jobs available. Thank you in advance for your willingness to show the love of Jesus to children in our neighborhood!



# Operation Christmas Child



## Packing Party News

We can still be thinking about and participating in OCC even in the spring and summer months. There is now a donation box in the foyer for you to place the "Items of the Month" in. Phil and Jeannette Hartung will gather and store the items, and on Saturday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Calvary will hold a packing party where everyone can be involved in packing and praying over the boxes. Calvary's goal for 2024 is 200 Gospel Opportunities for children and families around the world.

Starting this month, May until October, whenever you go shopping, pick up an item or two to bring to church and put in the donation box. For the month of May, the Item of the Month is Fashion Accessories (a few ideas include hair accessories, necklaces, sunglasses, watches) and/or Stuffed Animals.

Collection Week this year will be November 18-24.

If you have any questions or comments, please talk to Phil or Jeannette Hartung.



For inspirational, heartwarming stories of the impact these boxes make for God's kingdom, go to:  
[www.samaritanspurse.org/article/thank-you-so-much-for-bringing-me-to-jesus](http://www.samaritanspurse.org/article/thank-you-so-much-for-bringing-me-to-jesus)



# Women's Ministry Update

Our Women's Ministry event for the Nest Pregnancy Center came off beautifully, labeling some 500 baby bottle banks for fundraising and sewing and filling dozens of fabric gift bags for the women who will be served there. And everyone enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship and fun!

Our next event will take place in June, a Ladies' Lunch. Details have not been put together yet, but keep checking newsletters, bulletins, and the bulletin board for details as it gets closer!

# Youth Camp Notes

Just a few notes about our upcoming FUGE youth camp at Jenness Park, CA:

- Dates are coming up soon, July 14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>
- All money must be in by June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Final Parent Meeting will be on Sunday, June 30
- There are still 3 spots open for campers; if you know anyone who wanted to go but thought it was too late, see Pastor Tyler as soon as possible!

# Beyond Young Adults

Our next Beyond meeting will be dinner and a speaker, Mrs. Amanda Mora. This will take place on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the home of Jim and Alexis Grimm, 3965 Ross Ave, Ammon. The main dish will be provided, but please bring a side dish or dessert if you are able.

Saints  
*Alive!*

# CBC Senior Adults

The Seniors enjoyed an afternoon at the Museum of Idaho recently. Thirteen adults met and viewed the exhibit called "Under the Canopy," which highlights the ecology and animals of the rainforest.

There will not be an event for Seniors during the month of May due to conflicts and holidays, but watch for details coming up in June for Sunday Dinner Out.