An Exciting Church Excited About Its Mission!

# The Calvary Chronicle

A Quarterly Publication of First Calvary Baptist Church

## VOLUME 3, ISSUE I FEBRUARY 2018 SPIRITUAL DO-OVER

"Then Peter came to Him and said, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven'"

- Matthew 18:21-22 NKJV

Ever wish you could have a "do-over" in life? Every day presents another chance to "get it right". Fortunately, as His redeemed believers, our Father allows infinite "do-overs" for us, even when we disobey Him. God's grace and mercy are sufficient, and His love for us reaches beyond the ends of the earth. In this new year, let us be grateful for our Spiritual "doovers", and strive to "get it right" with each new day.

FCBC Calvary Chronicle Staff

# First Calvary Baptist Church

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"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

- 1 John 1:9 NIV



# Pastor's Desk Message

New Year...New Me...and a New edition of the Calvary Chronicle! Thank you to our hardworking Chronicle Staff for helping our Church Family be up to date on what's happening in the life of this Church.....and things are certainly happening! The question is... are YOU a part of it? Take a moment right now and contemplate where you serve in this Ministry. Is it a long list? Is it a list at all? Though we don't want anyone to be doing too much, we DO want everyone doing SOMETHING to serve within First Calvary. There are many ministries to choose from....find one...or two....and get busy, "Doing Our Father's Business". We are looking for "Wholly Committed" folk that are ready to move forward "Developing and Leading Disciples into Spiritual Excellence". That's a call to move...a call to ministry...for each of us. So, get on the bus!

Our theme for this edition of the Chronicle is "Spiritual Do-Over". What an appropriate concept as we move forward into 2018. God's mercies are new each day and we are given the opportunity to get being His Disciples right with each new morning. Some time ago, a song was popular that had these simple words, "Lord, make me over...make me over again." In this age of starting again whenever it is convenient, how important it is for the Christian to seek to be better-er and better-er with each breath! (yes, I am operating in my gift of making up words....) This translates to every area of our lives.... Home...work...school...community....AND CHURCH! I have shared this in other moments before, but consider this, "If every member in First Calvary were just like me, what kind of Church would First Calvary be?" As men and women of God, we must purpose it within ourselves to not just 'talk about it but be about it'; be about God's business and His purpose for our lives. It is when we focus on our relationship with Christ that

we are truly able to see a significant, positive difference in our prayer life, Christian service and our role within our respective families, our jobs, our communities, and our Church.

John Maxwell writes in his book entitled, The Difference Maker, that "Your Attitude Makes a Difference in Your Approach to Life, Your Attitude Makes a Difference in Your Relationship with People, Your Attitude Makes a Difference in How You Face Challenges and Your Attitude Is the Difference Maker." As servants of the Most High God, we are called to a standard of excellence! Excellence stands up and demands attention. Excellence reaches out and engages people. Excellence means that you pay attention to details. Excellence is more about an attitude than actions. Excellence cannot coexist with excuses! NO MORE EXCUSES! This ministry work is not about ME or YOU, but about GOD...and God is looking for us to be His Co-Laborers working without excuses. So, let's get to work! Remember always that we are AN EXCITING CHURCH EXCITED ABOUT ITS MISSION!

Yours in that Blessed Hope, Pastor Fredrick A. Davis



# **Encouraging the Tithe: A TITHING CHART** Tithing is the giving of 10% of one's income to the work of God through the church.

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20,000	2,000	38.46	166.67	3,000 57.69 250.00
25,000	2,500	48.08	208.33	3,750 72.12 312.50
30,000	3,000	57.69	250.00	4,500 86.54 375.00
35,000	3,500	67.31	291.67	5,250 100.96 437.50
40,000	4,000	76.92	333.33	6,000 115.38 500.00
45,000	4,500	86.54	375.00	6,750 129.81 562.50
50,000	5,000	96.15	416.67	7,500 144.23 625.00
55,000	5,500	105.77	458.33	8,250 158.65 687.50
60,000	6,000	115.38	500.00	9,000 173.08 750.00
65,000	6,500	125.00	541.67	9,750 187.50 812.50
70,000	7,000	134.62	583.33	10,500 201.92 875.00
75,000	7,500	144.23	625.00	11,250 216.35 937.50
80,000	8,000	153.85	666.67	12,000 230.77 1000.00
85,000	8,500	163.46	708.33	12,750 245.19 1062.50
90,000	9,000	173.08	750.00	13,500 259.62 1125.00
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# ALL TITHERS/ PROVE ME SUNDAY: Sunday, March 4th

"The purpose of tithing is to teach you always to put God first in your lives." -Deuteronomy 14: 23 (Living Bible)

## **P A G E 5**



# Ministry Volunteer Appeal: Video Ministry

Are you seeking an opportunity to join a Ministry that encourages your creativity, but requires no previous experience? Are you ready to be part of a team that is embarking on a unique and exciting chapter in the life of this congregation?

Have you had a chance to stop by the video room inside the choir room in the lower level of the church?

The Video Ministry is seeking members to join us as we strengthen the mission of "Expanding worship and fellowship", while equipping the body of Christ with multimedia outreach tools for salvation through Jesus Christ.

SCRIPTING					

The need is great for scripters, lighting technicians, audio technicians, videographers, and video editors to record and edit our weekly services and requested special church events.

Don't delay! Why not volunteer today and bring a friend along to be a part of this positive, spiritually focused atmosphere!

Join by contacting the Video Ministry via email at video@firstcalvary.org or by calling or texting Hilary Fearrington (919.602.1072).



Thank you!



# Member Spotlight



Each publication, a First Calvary Baptist Church member will be randomly selected to spotlight.



Member Spotlight: Brother Lynwood Jones

Member Spotlight

**Are you from this area?** I was born in DC and grew up in Arlington, VA. I lived there until I finished college.

What brought you to Durham? My wife, Jacqueline Jones. I met her when I traveled to Durham to play in a band.

**How long have you been at FCBC?** FCBC is the church where my wife grew up. We got married here in 1981. We moved to VA for six years and came back to Durham after that. So, I have been attending FCBC since around 1988.

What keeps you at FCBC? I like Pastor Davis and the members. FCBC is not a pretentious church. It is real. Pastor keeps us focused on God and not him. I have found FCBC to be a forgiving church because none of us are perfect. We are all on a spiritual journey. FCBC is a welcoming church that demonstrates true devotion and genuinely seeks what God wants it to be.

**What service do you normally attend?** I attend both services because I play the tenor saxophone and I attend Sunday school regularly. I also sing in the male choir.

Pastor Davis wants us to be a congregation that enhances. Give me an example of enhancing and how you demonstrate it. Music enhances the overall worship experience. I enjoy contributing to our music ministry by playing and singing.

**Do you have a favorite bible scripture?** I have a favorite book in the bible, Proverbs. There is so much that you can understand and glean from Proverbs. It helps reveal who we truly are. It also reminds us that regardless of your status or the accolades you get, you are still not all of that. It keeps you humble and keeps you aligned with God. It keeps you anchored which is much more important than getting recognition.

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time? I truly enjoy practicing music. I also enjoy spending time with my wife and helping her out. I also like sleeping.

**Tell me something that most people may not know about you.** I started playing in a band while I was in college. I was in the first back-up band for Evelyn "Champagne" King.

**Suggested Scripture to Include with Spotlight:** Proverbs 11:2 (NIV) When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

-Submitted by Maticia Sims



- Proverbs 11:2

#### **KINGDOM LEADERSHIP**

On January 27, 2018, First Calvary Baptist Church's Visionary Ministry sponsored their annual Leadership training. With over 90 leaders – and those aspiring to be leaders – in attendance, members of the Visionary Ministry set the stage for the next chapter in the life of leaders for First Calvary. The day began with breakfast and fellowship as attendees were able to view a slide presentation about leadership as well as read materials at their seat sharing Jon Bloo's "Five Marks of Leadership".



The Visionary Ministry Co-Chair Stephanie Jones walked attendees through the informationpacked agenda with highlights on the Training and Strategic initiatives that

started with the



brainstorming session held in June 2017. Pastor Fred A. Davis introduced our speaker of the hour with the inspirational phrase "it happened after prayer". Dr.

Michael R. Smith, Sr., Pastor/Teacher of First Congregational Church in Raleigh, North Carolina began a very deliberate, thorough, motivating discussion of Kingdom Leadership and Spiritual Disciplines.

Attendees were able to receive practical instruction on their being *in* this world but not *of* this world as Dr. Smith shared Kingdom Leadership priorities. The overall theme of the presentation and discussion was self-discipline:

"The Lord only uses the disciplined mind to think clearly, understand His word. Only the disciplined mind consistently discerns truth from error. And only the disciplined Christian is a good testimony, within

the church and before the world. Simply stated, self-discipline is obedience to God's word and willingness to submit everything in life to His Will, for His ultimate glory". J. Countryman 2001



With self-discipline as the premise, Dr. Smith shared how a Kingdom Leader must see themselves as a Kingdom leader in every aspect of their life. Attendees were encouraged to look at all

earthly problems through a spiritual lens instead of an earthly perspective. Leaders were encouraged to take their light (Christ) to the darkness to gain dominion over the problems that plague us.

Dr. Smith also shared several situations that are hindering effective kingdom leadership in the hopes that by making us aware we would study more to better equip us to successfully battle spiritually with these conditions. They are:

- Religious Pluralism = multiple religions are equally valid, minimizing Christ as just another leader
- Cultural Relativism = the absence of any absolute truth; whatever feels right to you
- Loss of religious Freedom = legalization of immoral laws
- Heretical teachings = demonic seduction within the church, false teachings, idolatry

Dr. Smith encouraged all those present to never compromise Christ! Attendees were encouraged to take an assessment of where they are in their walk and to more carefully observe what they're doing in



furtherance of the Kingdom. Visionary Ministry members provided sticky notes for standees to make a declaration of one thing that they were committed to doing for 2018 because of this teaching and their desire to be a more effective

Kingdom Leader. The "Commitment" will remain posted in the church all year and we plan to revisit the ideas expressed at future leadership trainings.

Pastor Davis blessed all in attendance by providing a copy of Dr. Smith's book "Spiritual Disciplines and Christian Leadership. *Are you a Kingdom Leader?*" First



Calvary will incorporate the book in a group study later this year lead by the Christian Education Ministry. If you have questions or would like to obtain a copy of the book for early review, please contact Minister Carter at <u>carter@firstcalvary.org</u>.

Submitted by Faith Thompson (Photos provided by Min. William Booth)



# THE GIFT THAT IS WORTHY OF PRAISE

First Calvary Baptist Church's Annual Christmas Presentation, which was the vision of Sister Gloria Lindsay, was held on Sunday, December 17, 2017 at 9:30am. The focus of the presentation was the Baby Jesus, with Shana Brye and Jayden Williams portraying Mary and Joseph. The program opened with the choir singing "Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child." Mary and Joseph entered the scene with Mary holding the Baby Jesus and Joseph holding a manger. They took their seats in the center front of the church on an elevated platform. The Beginners, Primary and Intermediate Classes entered to give their recitations and be seated around Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus. Then, three members of the Teens Class, who

were dressed as wise men, entered with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh for the Baby Jesus.



In the next scene, the Young Adults, the Singles and the Men's Classes entered as the choir sang "Mary, Did You Know?" These



classes repeated stanzas from this song to Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus. They gathered around and bowed or made worshipful gestures towards the Baby Jesus while the choir sang "Holy is the Lamb."

Afterwards, members of the Women's Class stood

throughout the audience and sang "Praise Him, Jesus Blessed Savior He is Worthy to be Praised!" Their praises drew to an enthusiastic crescendo as the choir and audience sang "I Love to Praise Him" and ended with the Amen Chorus."

#### PAGE II

This production was supported by the Music Ministry of the Church led by Minister Michael Dotson, Director of Music Ministries, and by members of the Young Adult Choir. After the presentation, Minister John Carter, Minister of

Christian Education, gave an overview of events that occurred around the time of the birth of Jesus. Minister Carter encouraged audience participation and asked for and answered questions from the audience.



Submitted by: Mary U. Vickers

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#### Annual MLK Youth Lock-In

The 25th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Lock-In was held January 14 -15, 2018. Approximately 130 youth ages 12-18 years old gathered at the Community Family Life and Recreation Center at Lyon Park for an overnight event full of workshops, games, entertainment, and food. Youth participated in sessions led by Durham School Board members, church clergy, community agencies and activists. Interactive information



about bullying and healthy relationships was shared with lock-in participants. Participants also had an opportunity to voice their questions and concerns about the city of Durham and school system in a town hall session. During the early morning hours,

youth enjoyed playing video games in a Game Truck, learning dance from Miss Black North Carolina, making march signs, and playing basketball. The annual Dodgeball tournament was won by the 14-15-year-old group. Youth were excited about the annual ice cream social, and watching the illusionist pull animals "out of thin air!" This annual event, sponsored by First Calvary Baptist Church, Durham Parks & Recreation, and Duke-Durham Neighborhood, concluded with youth participating in the Durham MLK, Jr. March.

#### A HEART FOR CHRIST

The Diaconate Ministry of First Calvary Baptist Church hosted the Annual *Honoring Our Elders Luncheon* on Saturday, February 3, 2018. Senior members of the church were invited to come to the Fellowship Hall and enjoy a meal and an afternoon of entertainment. As guests entered the church, they were registered



and given a ticket and cautioned to "hold on to this" for a later drawing. Next, guests were invited to have our pictures made. These pictures were developed and given to those who took a picture. Guests entered the Fellowship Hall to tables decorated in red and

white. This year's luncheon theme, *A Heart for Christ*, was based on the "Wear Red" campaign of the American Heart Association. Scripture was taken from Psalm 9:1: "I will praise thee, O Lord, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvelous works."

The ice-breaker entertainment was from the Senior Praise Team who sang

two selections: *Lord, I Thank You* and *Take Me Back*. Deacon and Deaconess Gadson gave the Purpose of the occasion. Deaconess Cynthia Gadson said that are many ways to praise. She then listed some ways that are found in scripture, including: Praising Him by lifting



your hands (Psalms 134:2), Praising Him with singing (Psalm 147:1 and Psalm 100:2), Praising Him with your words (Hebrews 13:15), Praising Him with dancing and instruments (Psalm 149:3), and Praising Him in fellowship with other

believers (Hebrews 2:12). The guest musicians, From the Heart, sang three



selections: *Praise Him, Let the Love of God Shine in Your Life,* and *God will Take Care of You*. The songs were familiar and this prompted many audience members to join in by singing and clapping their hands to the beat. Deacon and Deaconess Cason gave out door prizes to the

lucky ticket holders.

From the comments I heard from the people sitting around me, I think that "a good time was had by all."

Submitted by Mary U. Vickers (Photos provided by Deacon Kevin G. Montgomery)



#### Forgiveness Part 2: The "Forgiveness Package"

Each Wednesday in January, I am participating in a radio show in Madison, WI about the process of forgiveness as it serves as part of the foundation of emotional well-being. The host asked me: "what is the first step in helping someone work toward forgiveness?" My response:

"Understanding what forgiveness means to people." Some people believe that forgiveness means that they agree with the perpetrators' actions. Other

people believe that forgiveness means that they must resume the same kind of relationship they had with the person prior to the offense. Still others believe that the process of forgiveness requires them to surrender their sanity. Forgive others as quickly as you expect God to forgive you.

As you can imagine, none of these beliefs are true, but they serve as great reasons why people do not easily entertain the idea of forgiveness. I like to say that the main feature of the "forgiveness package" is releasing the negative energy that we hold in our spirit for the harm that someone caused us. Releasing this negative energy through expressing the feelings and emotions associated with the harm instead of holding in our reaction is key to our emotional well-being. Releasing the negative energy might

require some trial and error, and does not happen overnight. The key is to keep working at it until thoughts and emotions are expressed and released.

occasional act. is not an. it is a) permanent - Martin Luther King Jr.

In addition to releasing negative energy, the "forgiveness package" includes permission to believe what others show us about themselves. For

example, if your loved one shows you that she does not repay money despite sincere and enthusiastic promises, then it's OK not to loan her your rent money in the hopes that she will pay you back before rent is due – for the second time. If you decided to give her money, ensure that it is money you won't need again. Consider it a gift. Speaking of gifts, *forgiveness* is one of the best gifts you can give yourself!

Dr. Jennifer Rounds-Bryant



Connect with Dr. Jenn: FB: Dr. Jenn Moved Me Forward



## 5 Healthy New Year's Resolutions That Are Easy to Keep.... "Physical & Spiritual Do-Over"

Set yourself up for success with these ideas.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO GET A GOOD START....Setting a <u>New Year's resolution</u> is the easy part—it's sticking to one that is actually hard. Experts agree that people make resolutions with the best of intentions, but often inadvertently set themselves up for failure. "Change is hard. We are creatures of habit.

To set yourself up for success: Write down your goals, share them with someone to help keep yourself accountable, and make sure they are as specific and achievable as possible. Rome wasn't built in a day, people. The most important thing: making sure your goals are actually reasonable. Here are five small but meaningful changes you could think about making.

#### 1 Eat mindfully.

The idea behind mindful eating is pretty basic: If you take the time to truly savor what you are eating, without distractions, then your body will tell you when you're full and what it's craving. The hope is that mindful eating can lead you to a balanced, healthy diet that also includes your favorite treats.

#### 2 Go to sleep—and wake up—at the same time.

"People focus on getting enough sleep and that's important, but a lot of people don't emphasize the importance of a consistent sleep/wake schedule. Try putting yourself on a regular sleep schedule, and see <u>how it makes you feel</u>.

#### 3 Find workouts that will help you achieve your goals.

First, narrow down what it is you want to achieve at the gym, whether that's building muscle, increasing flexibility, or burning fat. Then try workouts that are aligned with your goals—and that you enjoy, so you're more likely to keep coming back.

#### 4 Cut down on sugar.

It turns out that the average American consumes over <u>77 pounds of sugar</u> or sweetener each year, even though eating too much of it increases your risk of <u>heart disease</u>, <u>obesity</u>, and type 2 diabetes. Think about evaluating how much sugar you actually consume, and if it's a lot, take steps to cut back a bit. "Cutting back on sugar is a gradual process and doesn't happen overnight, but once you start to cut back on it, you'll realize you don't need as much of it as you once thought. And it doesn't have to be complicated."

#### 5 Drink a bit more water.

If you want to up your water intake, try keeping a water bottle at your desk, drinking a glass before starting each meal, or sipping some H20 when you're feeling peckish (experts say that we often confuse hunger and thirst). And if you don't know how much water you should be drinking each day...Eight glassed per day unless otherwise recommended.

#### New Year's Resolution Healthy Habits (www.self.com)



For more free Bible resources and Teacher Packs including coloring worksheets, guizzes and more visit our website at: www.biblepathwayadventures.com



#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS: FEBRUARY - APRIL 2018

#### Each Wednesday:

- Noon Day Prayer, 12:00 p.m.
- Prayer & Praise, 6:45 p.m.
- Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

#### Each Sunday:

- Early Worship 7:45 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m./ Children's Church (1st 4th Sundays) 10:45am
- Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
- Baptism, 10:30 a.m. (1<sup>st</sup> Sundays)

#### <u>4<sup>th</sup> Sundays:</u>

• Intercessory Prayer, 7:00 a.m.

#### FEBRUARY – AFRICAN-AMERICAN MONTH

- February 11<sup>th</sup>: Scholarship Sunday: Guest Speaker: Dr. Elwood Robinson, Chancellor, WSSU
- February 16-18<sup>th</sup> Young Adult Conference
- February 17<sup>th</sup>: Young Adult Wordshop, 8::30am
- February 18<sup>th</sup>: Young Adult Sunday Guest Minister: Min. Ernest Brooks, President/CEO, Academy of Preachers, Atlanta, GA
- February 25<sup>th</sup>: "Red Sunday" Wear Red for Heart Health Month

#### MARCH – STEWARDSHIP MONTH

- March 4<sup>th</sup>: Prove Me/All Tithers' Sunday
- March 11<sup>th</sup>: Scouting Sunday
- March 17th: West End Community Foundation Inc. Annual Golf Tournament, 8:00am
- March 25<sup>th</sup>: Palm Sunday/Sacrificial Sunday
- March 29<sup>th</sup>: Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00pm
- March 30<sup>th</sup>: Good Friday Church Office Closed
- March 31<sup>st</sup>: Spring Festival, 9:00am

#### **APRIL - WOMANHOOD MONTH**

- April 1<sup>st</sup>: Resurrection Sunday
- April 6<sup>th</sup>: "Sistah's Night Out", 7:00pm
- April 7<sup>th</sup>: Women's Prayer Breakfast, 9-11am
- April 14<sup>th</sup>: Women's Wordshop, 9:00am
- April 15<sup>th</sup>: New Disciples' Fellowship, 1:15pm
- April 18-19<sup>th</sup>: Women's Revival, 7:00pm
- April 20<sup>th</sup>: Hour of Power, 12:00pm
- April 21<sup>st</sup>: Women's Outreach at the Mobile Market Amnesty Day Event, 9:00am
- April 22<sup>nd</sup>: Celebration of Womanhood Sunday
- April 28<sup>th</sup>: Women's Simulcast, 8:30am 4:30pm



The FCBC Food Pantry is ALWAYS TAKING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD DONATIONS. Things like peanut butter, jelly, pasta, pasta sauce, cereal, rice, canned veggies (ALWAYS NEEDED), and ramen noodles.

#### "An Exciting Church Excited About Its Mission"

### Calvary Chronicle Staff:

Toni McIntosh Nia Shields Maticia Sims Faith Thompson Mary Vickers

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#### Contributors:

Pastor Fredrick A. Davis Min. William Booth Sis. Betty Borden Sis. Dennise Lindsay Deacon Kevin G. Montgomery Dr. Jennifer Rounds-Bryant \*Are you a writer? Do you aspire to the likes of Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, James Baldwin, or Nikki Giovanni?
\*Are you a regular "shutterbug" who enjoys taking pictures?
Are you an up-and-coming Gordon Parks, Lorna Simpson, Carrie Mae Weems, or John H. White?
\*Do you have a talent for editing?
\*Do you have an eye for proofreading?

\*Are you a wiz at graphic design, or possess a talent for visual presentations?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, the Calvary Chronicle is in need of your talents! Please contact the Calvary Chronicle via email at calvarynews@firstcalvary.org if interested in joining the staff!



Welcome New Disciples! The following individuals completed New Disciples' Class and received the Right Hand of Fellowship (since 01 November 2017):

> Damita Brown Eulee'Ka Brown \*\*Calvin Lee Patterson

The mission of the Calvary Chronicle ministry is to promote communication among the members, disciples, and friends of FCBC in the spirit of Christian Love.

If you are interested in joining the Calvary Chronicle staff, please contact Sister Toni McIntosh at <u>calvarynews@firstcalvary.org</u> or (919)341-4645. Thank you!