PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

ILL AT HOME & RECOVERING
SHUT-INS & CHRONIC ILLNESS
HOSPITALS/NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING & REHAB
NON - MEDICAL PRAYER NEEDS

FINANCIAL UPDATE	
Weekly Requirements	$ 7,230.19
Undesignated – August 25, 2024	$ 7,717.01
Savings – August 25, 2024	$ 149.63

Young Adult Class Events
Beginning parent class on Sunday evening, September 8.
Nursery will be provided.

CBC has been blessed with a wonderful library, but we need something---someone---to make it just right! We need a librarian team of one or two people who are willing to take on the task. Please see Dana Caywood for more information and she will put you in touch with people who can train you.

Calvary Baptist Church

1238 Pine Street – Kingsport, Tennessee 37664
423-245-9157
http://www.calvaryofkpt.org

Pastor:	Dr. Donnie C. Brannen
Associate Pastor/Music, Ed:	Rev. D. Mikel Caywood
Youth Director:	Harrison Ihrig
Secretary:	Jennifer Ramey
Pianist:	Debbie Johnson
Keyboard:	Lemuel Mixon
Drummer:	Jeff Sturgill
Webmaster:	Dana Caywood

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The Cross and Compass

Matthew 28:19-20

Vol. VXX No. 6 **August 27, 2024**

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE
9:15 AM Sunday School
10:30 AM Morning Worship (Sanctuary)
Our preschool for Sunday School and Worship is open.

TUESDAY SCHEDULE
12:00 Noon Sr. Adult Bible Study& Lunch (CH)
WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE
6:00 PM Adult Prayer Meeting (CH)
Konnect Kidz Activities
7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal – Nursery provided

September Special Dates
Labor Day, September 2, 2024
National Grandparents Day, September 8, 2024
Patriot Day, September 11, 2024
First day of autumn, September 22, 2024

IT'S TIME TO GIVE

"Give to the LORD the glory due His name; Bring an offering, and come before Him. Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!" (I Chronicles 16:29 - NKJV).

"...not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:25 - NKJV).

Many are the prognosticators who are predicting the soon return of our Lord in the clouds to rapture His church. Could His coming be soon? Of course. Our time is marked by warfare (particularly against Israel), famines, disease, false prophets, coldness of heart on the part of Christians, persecution, martyrdoms and earthquakes. Matthew 24:33 says that "*when you see all these things, recognize that he is near - at the door."* Given that "all these things" included the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D., and that world history has been marked by such signs to a lesser or greater degree in every generation since then, He's been standing at the door, "sitting on ready," so to speak, for 1954 years, awaiting the word from the Father to come and remove His church before the great and terrible Day of the Lord commences with the trumpet and bowl judgments of Revelation. Are we necessarily at the end game of the church age? No one - let me stress that - *no one* - knows for sure (Matthew 24:42, 44), but one thing is for sure: the Day is approaching, and it's closer than it's ever been. These are perilous, difficult times we're living in. Such times do not call for retreat or surrender, but for advance. It's time for us to give for the advancement of God's Kingdom on earth.

IT'S TIME FOR US TO GIVE GLORY TO GOD *("Give to the LORD the glory due His name..."):* In this world where so many are so hostile to the name of God, we might be tempted to keep our Christianity a secret. The world certainly pressures us to keep our faith to ourselves and limit the practice of it to the four walls of the church. NO! The people of God have been silent for far too long. It is time for the people of God to stand boldly and proudly and proclaim our allegiance to the name of the Lord Jesus! The godless have no problem parading their perversions in the streets, blaspheming the name of God, or proudly sacrificing unborn children in a public venue. It's time for the redeemed of the Lord to say so, to give Him the glory He deserves!

IT'S TIME FOR US TO GIVE TIME TO THE LORD *("...come before Him..."):* We need to come before the Lord daily, speaking to Him in worship and prayer, and listening to Him in His Word. No one will make it as a believer in this hostile spiritual environment without this daily audience with our King. But the primary emphasis of I Chronicles 16:29 is coming before Him in public worship, gathering with other believers, *"not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some."* I read an article the other day that suggested that the main reason church attendance has fallen off by 40 million people in the last 25 years, the largest concentrated change in church attendance in American history, is mainly because of "the way life functions in the 21st century." Life moves too fast. People are too busy, too stressed, and too tired to dedicate time to worship. I would say to you that if you are too busy to worship God, you have more business than God intended, and your stress and tiredness may well be because your priorities are out of line. Enough with the feeble excuses of the enemy that "I don't have to go to church to be a good Christian" (yes, you do, because "good Christians" obey the Lord's commands) or "I can worship the Lord better at home/golf course/boat/out in nature" (Do you? Really? Or are you worshiping a leisure activity and calling it "God"? That is the very definition of idolatry.). It's time for God's people who have bought the lies that lead to sparse or spotty church attendance to repent and for all of God's people to come before Him personally and daily and publically for corporate worship.

IT'S TIME FOR US TO GIVE OF OUR RESOURCES TO GOD *("Bring an offering, and come before Him"):* God told His people not to come before Him empty-handed, but to bring an offering. The ministry of the church (both local and worldwide) is being diminished and choked out in our day by the disobedience of God's people in the matter of financial stewardship. As I've said before, the budget process of most churches (and mission agencies, ministries, seminaries, etc.) is nothing more than the management of disobedience, trying to stretch limited funds over God-given tasks. God has designed it such that everything He desires to do can be financed by the tithes (the first 10% of one's income as commanded by God) and offerings (free-will giving above the 10% as led by God) of His people, but when His people are disobedient in their stewardship of their finances, either tasks must be left undone for lack of funding, or else we attempt to do everything God calls us to do, but it all gets done badly.

IT'S TIME FOR US TO GIVE AN EXAMPLE TO THE WORLD *("Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!"):* Here, holiness is presented as a garment to be worn while worshiping the Lord. In the Old Testament times, people would take a ritual bath before entering the Temple. When we come before the Lord, either in private devotion or public worship, we need to first take a spiritual bath by confessing our sins (I John 1:9). But our worship extends further than our prayer closet or our local church. We worship the Lord in the way we conduct ourselves each and every day, on the job, in the neighborhood, in our schools, wherever we are. God calls us to walk in holiness so that the world can see His life being lived in and through us (Matthew 5:16).

IT'S TIME FOR US TO GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT TO ONE ANOTHER *("...exhorting one another..."):* To exhort is to lift up the downcast, to encourage the despairing, to give a pep talk to those who are flagging. Our gathering together gives us encouragement through the Word and presence of God, but also through the words and presence of one other. A church service is a reminder to us that we're not alone in worshiping and walking with God (I Kings 19:10), and in standing against Satan and enduring suffering for the faith (I Peter 5:8-9).

THE TIME IS NOW! It's time to cast aside excuses and give our time to be in Sunday School at 9:15 Sunday morning, and worship at 10:30. It's time to give of our resources, to bring an offering into the Lord's storehouse (Malachi 3:10). It's time to glorify God by worshiping and walking in holiness, giving glory to Him and showing His light to the world. It's time to give and receive encouragement.

I hope to see you at the appointed time.

Numbers 6:24-26,
Bro. Donnie

1	Daniel Sturgill	19	Glenda Livesay
5	Theresa Livesay #2	20	Phyllis Sipe
7	Holly Carver	22	Chad Shanks
9	Mark Collins Sr.	24	Abraham Caywood
10	John Thomasson	28	Vicky Hames
11	Liam Sturgill	30	Rachel Sturgill
12	Makenna Morris		
	Jessica Troutt		
13	Kathryn Kerns		
	Bryson Livesay		
15	Teresa Livesay #1		

H A P P Y B I R T H D A Y!

Your church family wants to wish you a wonderful day filled with God's love and blessings. If your birthday is not listed, please contact the church office.