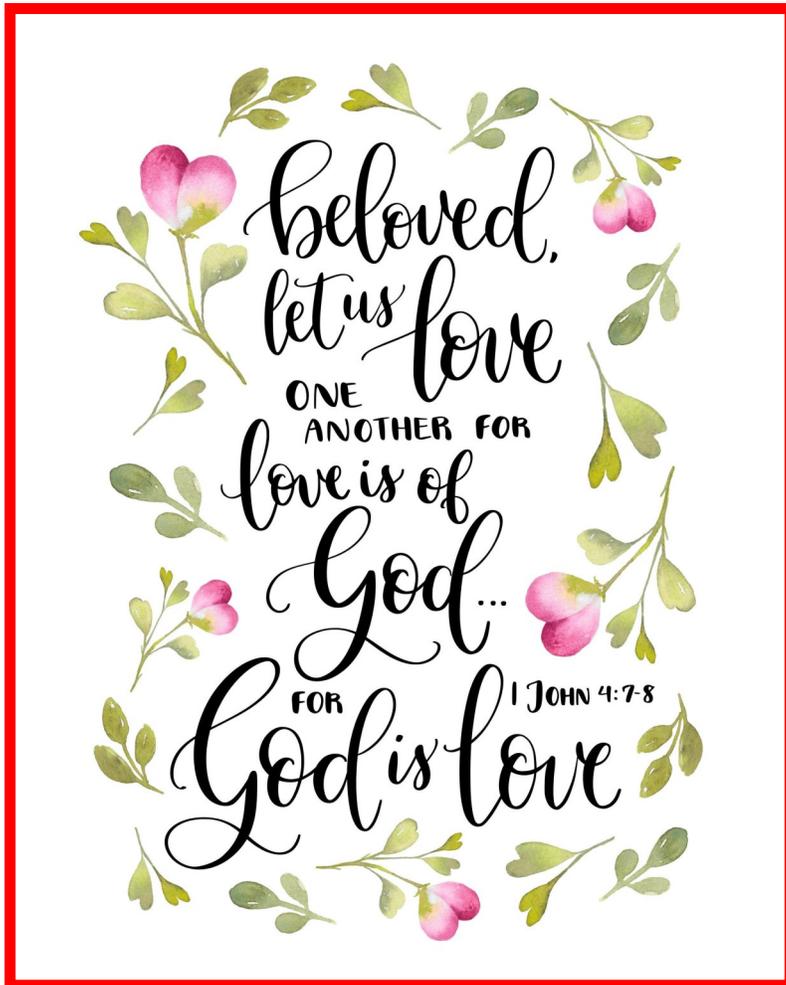


Calvary Baptist Church Senior Saints Newsletter

February 2026



Comforting Prayer

by
Corrie Ten Boom

Father, thank You for the steady peace that comes from knowing I belong to Jesus. When life rises and falls, when seasons shift and storms come, my heart rests in the truth that I am held by the One who saved me. Lord, You have carried me through valleys I didn't think I could survive, and You've walked with me on mountaintops I never dreamed I would see.

Thank You for the hope that anchors me, an everlasting hope that nothing in this world can steal. Help me to trust You more deeply, to lean into Your presence when I feel weak, and to remember that because Jesus is mine, I am safe, I am loved, and I will be okay.

**In Jesus' precious name,
amen.**



February Birthdays

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|----------|
| 02 | Brenda Newton | H |
| | Lisa Patterson | |
| 05 | Andy Hale | A |
| | Mae Pearson | |
| | David Wright | P |
| 06 | Wilma White | |
| 08 | Scott Sledge | P |
| 10 | Robin Griffies | |
| | Sandra Inge | Y |
| 11 | Donald Davis | |
| 13 | Rose Martin | B |
| | Glenda Rawlings | |
| 16 | James Cook | I |
| 17 | Laura Ferguson | |
| | Jim Rainey | R |
| 18 | Hazel Wall | |
| 20 | Betty Cook | T |
| | Kim Shotwell | |
| 21 | Jim Carter | H |
| | Butch Coons | |
| | George Smiley | D |
| | Dot Wright | |
| 22 | Barbara Barrett | A |
| | Sleepy Brame | |
| | Tammy Gibson | Y |



February Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|----------------------|
| 13 | Butch & Pat Coons |
| 14 | Randy & Linda Keeton |
| 18 | Glenn & Lou Smith |
| 20 | Randy & Rose Martin |
| 26 | Eure & Hazel Wall |

Pastor Andy's Thoughts

As we enter the month of February, the season of love, we are reminded of the greatest love story ever told: God's love for us. This month offers us an opportunity to reflect on the depth and breadth of His unwavering love and how it shapes our lives.

God's Everlasting Love

John 3:16 tells us, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." This verse is a powerful reminder of the sacrificial love God has for each one of us. In a world where love can often seem fleeting, God's love remains constant and eternal. Let us cherish and share this love with those around us.

Valentine's Month and Acts of Love

February is often associated with expressions of love and affection. It's a perfect time to reach out to friends, family, and even strangers with acts of kindness and love. Write a letter, make a phone call, or offer a helping hand—these small gestures can make a significant impact. "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love" (1 Corinthians 13:13).

Reflecting on God's Love

Take time this month to reflect on the ways God has shown His love in your life. Despite the challenges and trials, His love remains our anchor and our hope. Pray for a deeper understanding of His love and for the ability to share it with others. "Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God" (1 John 4:7).

Prayer and Reflection

As we journey through February, let our hearts be filled with the love of Christ. Pray for those who are lonely, sick, or in need of encouragement. Let us be vessels of His love, bringing light and hope to those around us. "Above all, maintain constant love for one another, since love covers a multitude of sins" (1 Peter 4:8).

May your February be filled with the warmth of God's love and the joy of sharing it with others.

Love you Senior Saints! Pastor Andy

Chosen Vessel

The Master was searching for a vessel to use;
On the shelf there were many
 which one would He choose?
"Take me, cried the gold one I'm shiny and bright,
I'm of great value and I do things just right.
My beauty and luster will outshine the rest
And for someone like you, Master,
 gold would be the best!"
The Master passed on with no word at all;
He looked at a silver urn, narrow and tall;
"I'll serve you, dear Master, I'll pour out your wine
And I'll be at your table whenever you dine,
My lines are so graceful, my carvings so true,
And my silver will always compliment you."
Unheeding the Master passed on to the brass,
It was wide mouthed and shallow,
 and polished like glass.
"Here! Here!" cried the vessel, I know I will do.
Place me on your table for all men to view."
"Look at me", called the goblet of crystal so clear.
"My transparency shows my contents so dear,
Though fragile are I, I will serve you with pride,
And I'm sure I'll be happy in your home to abide."
The Master came next to a vessel of wood,
Polished and carved, it solidly stood.
"You may use me, dear Master",
 the wooden bowl said.
"But I'd rather you used me for fruit,
 not for bread!"
Then the Master looked down
 and saw a vessel of clay,
Empty and broken it helplessly lay.
No hope had the vessel that
 the Master might choose,
To cleanse and make whole, to fill and to use.
Ah! This is the vessel I've been hoping to find,
I will mend and use it and make it all mine.
I need not the vessel with pride of itself;
Nor the one who is narrow to sit on the shelf;
Nor the one who is big mouthed
 and shallow and loud;
Nor one who displays his contents so proud;
Nor the one who thinks
 he can do all things just right;
But this plain earthy vessel filled
 with my power and might
Then gently He lifted the vessel of clay.
Mended and cleansed it and filled it that day.
Spoke to it kindly "There's work you must do.
Just pour out to others as I pour into you."

Author Unknown
Artist - Jerry Yarnell

Poem furnished by
Maxine Stutmann



Pastor Charlie's Devotion

How Big is your Scoop?

In the Gospel of Luke 6:38, Luke records these words of Jesus, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

This verse speaks to the generosity of our hearts and to the Lord's generosity. First, if we will give it will be given to us. What can we give? Money, love, mercy, grace, friendship, compassion, sympathy, and forgiveness to name a few things. If we give these things, they will be given back to us. Now, notice that we cannot out give the Lord. Jesus said, A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into our lap. I like that!

But then Jesus added something. "For the measure you use, it will be measured to you." This means that if we use a teaspoon instead of a cup, to measure out our giving then God will use a teaspoon to give back to us. On the other hand, if we use a bucket instead of a cup, then the Lord will use the bucket as well.

When Jesus forgave you and me, he used a steam shovel size scoop. In addition to forgiveness, the Lord continues to pour out His blessings on us every day. So, when it comes time for us to give forgiveness, love, mercy, grace, friendship, time, talents, financial resources, or anything else what size scoop should we use? You see, I believe God blesses us so we can be blessings to others. That may mean that whatever size scoop I have been using is not big enough.

There is a cereal company that brags that they put two scoops of raisins in every box of cereal, however, they do not tell us what size the scoops are. Let's not let a cereal company out do us in giving!

God bless you as you give.

Pastor Charlie Carter

Ecuador



Sunday, February 8

following the

**11am Worship Service
in the Church Gym**

**Proceeds will benefit the
12 member Ecuador
Mission Trip Team.**

Holy Humor....

After church on Sunday morning, a young boy suddenly announced to his mother, "Mom, I've decided I'm going to be a minister when I grow up."

"That's okay with us," the mother said, "But what made you decide to be a minister?"

"Well," the boy replied, "I'll have to go to church on Sunday anyway, and I figure it will be more fun to stand up and yell than to sit still and listen."



**Fuel prices are so high
that I went to a dealership
and test drove three cars
to run my errands.
Follow me for more
money saving tips.**

THOUGHT OF THE DAY - Declutter before you are 70 years old. After that, you spend a whole lot of time at your doctor's office or taking someone else to theirs, so you don't get much else done. de clutter 365

SIDEWALK DE-ICER - For icy steps and sidewalks, mix 1 teaspoon of Dawn dish soap, 1 tablespoon of rubbing alcohol, and ½ gallon of warm water. Pour it over the walkway-it won't refreeze, and it saves your concrete from salt damage! **I have not tried this, but may need to before this winter weather is over! Please be safe!**

Scriptures that Show God's Love

John 3:16 – For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Psalms 36:7 – How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

1 John 4:9-10 – In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

Isaiah 54:10 – “For the mountains may depart and the hills be removed, but my steadfast love shall not depart from you, and my covenant of peace shall not be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Romans 5:8 – But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Galatians 2:20 – I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Jeremiah 31:3 – The Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7 – Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Lamentations 3:22-23 – The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Ephesians 2:4-6 – But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 86:15 – But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

John 15:13 – “Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.”

Romans 8:37-39 – No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor ruler, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 John 4:7-8 – Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

Jeremiah 29:11 – For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

Psalms 36:5 – Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

Romans 5:5 – And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Psalms 136:26 – Give thanks to the God of heaven, for his steadfast love endures forever.

1 John 4:16 – So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him.

Zephaniah 3:17 – The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

1 John 4:19 – We love because he first loved us.

Psalms 109:26 – Help me, O Lord my God! Save me according to your steadfast love!

1 John 3:1 – See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him.

1 John 4:18 – There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.

Ephesians 3:17-19 – So that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Ramblings of the Ole Man

Being it's going to be February when you get this newsletter I'm going to stick with the theme of Valentine's Day and love. I know I've made mention of how I met the Bride, but y'all are just going to have to bear with me as I tell it one more time. At sixteen, I went to work for Russell Carter, one of the men that I've talked about who helped shape my life. I've told you all how he had a bunch of paper routes, and my job was delivering the Herald and the News and Observer for him. At the time, I didn't know that he was also the uncle to my future wife. The first time I saw and met my Bride beginning our journey in life was the night her mom and dad's house caught fire and burnt to the ground, which is also the first time I ever saw a fire so hot that the bricks burned. Later that night while on the News and Observer route, I went by the house and the fire department was having to spray water on the bricks where they had flared up again. That night she and her parents came to stay at Russell's house since her mom and Russell's wife were sisters. This is where I first laid eyes on her. She was working at the Golden Corral and when I saw her I perked right up as you see that uniform that she had on clung to her just right. She was all of ninety-eight pounds with curly hair almost to her shoulders. To me she was absolutely beautiful. As hard as I tried to get her to talk to me, she wouldn't give me the time of day!!!! But me being me, I didn't let that deter me, especially after my buddy, Donnie Patterson, laughed and said that was my one shot. I replied (God's truth), "She's going to talk to me if I have to marry her." Well, I pursued her off and on for about



**Robert & Wanda Matthews
(Then & Now)**

a year, slowly but surely breaking her down with the Matthews charm, until we started dating for about another year. Then at the age of nineteen I asked her to marry me. To my surprise, she said yes!!! We couldn't afford a proper wedding at the time, so we got married at the courthouse after work still in our work clothes. She in her tour guide uniform and me in my guard uniform, we stood hand in hand and said our vows for better or worse, richer or poorer, in sickness or health till death do us part. I added that if I had to have anyone else but her I vowed to respect her enough to tell her, pack my stuff, and leave. She vowed to do the same. In July of this year, it will be forty-seven years. It ain't all been easy, but I can say it's been interesting. We've stuck it out together through thick and thin. I can say I love her more every single day. I've never understood why she said yes, but by cracky she did, and I'm the better for it! Thank you Lord!!!

Rambling's of the ole man - Robert Matthews



Senior Saints Valentine Banquet

It is always fun getting together even if you have to change the date at the last minute. We sure missed all of the ones that were sick and could not attend. Casey Short did an excellent job of entertaining us, and as always the meal prepared by

Jerry & Grace Moseley
& Ernie Clemmons
was delicious.

Thank you to everyone that helped set up, serve, and clean up. We greatly appreciate everyone that helped with this banquet!.



**Senior Saint's Chili Lunch / Bingo
perfect for a cold winter's day!**

Thursday, February 19, 12 noon
In Social Room
Cost: \$5.00 for lunch



Please
signup and
pay by
Feb. 15.



**Dutch Treat Lunch at
Ralph's BBQ Restaurant
followed by browsing
at Riverside Mills in Weldon**



Thursday, March 19, meet at Ralph's at 11 a.m.
Please signup by March 15
so we will save a space for you for lunch.

**OCC
STEW SALE**

Saturday, February 7
\$12.00 per quart
Pick up at 44 Vance Street
between 10 am to 12 noon.
Money goes towards purchasing shoebox items.



February Collection
Hats, Gloves, Scarves,
Ponchos & Washcloths,
Valentine Clearance Items

OCC Shoebox Meeting
Tuesday, February 10, 6:30 p.m.
Upstairs in OCC Storage Rooms
All are welcome to attend.

Please note change of date for our February meeting.
It will not be on the first Tuesday night due to weather.

**Easter Jubilee
at the
Rudy Theatre
& Lunch at the
Robbin's Nest
Thursday
April 16**



Leave Calvary at 9:30 a.m.
Cost: \$47.00 - 25 tickets
Sign up and pay by
March 29.

**Join us as we keep our
homebound members
in our thoughts and prayers.**



We feel very blessed when some of these who have experienced health issues feel well enough to attend worship services. It is always so good to see them!

Local Homebound

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Bea Collier | Jim & Barbara Carter |
| Mary Lee Daughtry | Clayton & Novella Casey |
| Nell Davis | Jim & Patty Kuroski |
| Katherine Faison | Gene & Claudia Neal |
| Stanley Faulkner | David & Sue Rhodes |
| Erma Ford | Henry & Celeste Simmons |
| Claire Gay | Earl & Janet Taylor |
| Jane Gorris | Gene & Anna Wayne Tritt |

Out of Town Homebound

- Richard & Barbara Coburn
Marlene Goodall
Betty Jenkins
Fran Lyles
Martha Wilson
Daguerrlyn Wood

**Please let us know if
others need to be added.**

**PRAISING GOD
FOR 12,205,900
SHOEBOXES
COLLECTED**

WERE LOVINGLY PACKED AND SENT
OUT ACROSS THE WORLD IN 2025



Check the Senior Saints' bulletin board in the back hall for information and sign up forms. It is very important that you sign up for events so proper preparations can be made. A waiting list will be available if we have to limit reservations. You will be moved to the regular list if space becomes available.