



December 6, 2018 • No. 49

Advent Photo Challenge

Sarah Becker

I hope you all are enjoying the Advent devotions that were written by different members of the Calvary family—I know I am! But this year Calvary has something else to help us engage in the Advent and Christmas seasons: an Advent Photo Challenge. I have participated in similar challenges before, for different seasons of the church year, and have found them very meaningful. Thinking through the word of that day—which for us correspond to the daily Advent devotions—allowed me to contemplate the season's themes more deeply as I tried to make or find a picture that represented my thoughts. And I know God guided my contemplations to places I would never have gone to by myself.

Here's how it works: from the beginning of Advent to the end of December, every day has been given a word to guide your reflection. Using that word as your guide, take or find a picture for that day and post it on Instagram and/or Facebook along with the hashtag **#adventcbc**. I always write a little caption, too, explaining how the picture fits the word. For example, for a past photo challenge I did, one day the word was "Brokenness." I took a picture of puzzle pieces and wrote: "This puzzle is in pieces. It is broken. No, we don't think like that. The puzzle isn't broken; it just hasn't been put together yet. And I wonder how many times I've looked at something, some part of my life, and declared it broken, when, in fact, the pieces just haven't been put together yet. God just isn't finished."

Up Ahead

12/09

09:30a - Sunday School
10:45a - Intergen. Choir-led Worship
02:00p - Children's Trip to "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever"
06:00p - Youth Christmas Party

12/10

06:45a - Men's Breakfast

12/11

10:00a - Meals on Wheels

12/13

10:00a - Meals on Wheels

Financials

Jan. - Oct. Projected Budget
Receipts: **\$443,605**
Jan. - Oct. Actual Budget
Receipts: **\$467,032**
Jan. - Oct. Actual Receipts Over Projection: **\$23,427**

Birthdays

12/06 - Jennifer Grant

The important thing is to do this in a way that is meaningful to you and in a way that helps you engage in Advent. You may choose to write a caption like I do, or you might not. You might want to take every picture, or you may want to find every picture (like on the internet), or you might want to do a combination of both. If you miss a day, don't worry! Either post on more than one word in a day, or just skip the one you missed. This is meant to be fun and fruitful. I hope it is for you.



12/07 - Buddy
Ferguson
12/07 - Linda Dulin
12/09 - Lynn Williams
12/11 - Rachel Stoner
12/12 - Glen Guthrie

Worship

*Advent Outside the
Box: Love
Unexpectedly.*

**This Sunday the
Intergenerational
Choir will lead us in
worship!**

Photos from the First Sunday in Advent





[Join Us This Sunday for a special Intergenerational Choir-led Service!](#)





Advent: Outside the Box

A diverse group of Calvarians of many ages and stages of life contributed to our devotional series for the Advent season. Here's a highlight from this first week:

Week One: Be Still

In this week's Advent: Outside the Box devotion series, Eva Doyle writes, "Picture trying to keep little Eric quiet "in big church" when there was no place for little ones to go during the service. One Sunday toward the end of a long sermon, Eric's dad whispered an ultimatum in fidgety Eric's ear if he didn't sit down and get still. Eric obeyed. But after a few seconds, he calmly leaned over to his dad, looked up at him with a sweet 4-year-old smile and whispered, "Daddy, on the outside, I'm sitting down. But, on the inside, I'm standing up."

I know what you are thinking: "This isn't a story about being calm and waiting on God! THIS story is about stubborn defiance. Aren't you supposed to be writing something about being still and letting God do something?"

But, let's think for a moment about the last time you and I sat down and *tried* to have a still moment with God – but *couldn't*.

Continue reading Eva's devotion, and others, with us this Advent at <http://calvarydevos.blogspot.com>. Additionally, they can be viewed on our Facebook page and hard copies are also available at church.



Purchase a Poinsettia for Advent

The poinsettias have arrived but it is not too late to order one! For every \$10 you give to Calvary, we will add a beautiful poinsettia to the sanctuary and honor or remember someone special to you. Please order here <http://bit.ly/Poinset-18> and pay either through www.cbcwaco.net or with an envelope in the offering plate labeled "poinsettias." What a thoughtful way to say thank you to so many who serve so faithfully at Calvary!

The poinsettias in the sanctuary have been given in honor/memory of:

Carey Russell Chappell, and Ruby and James Noel (Ali Chappell and Hank DeHay)

Les Palmer Sr. and Jack Rhodes (Les and Lanna Palmer)

Creekside on the Brazos Tailgate Crew and All-Stars Sunday School Class (Josh Borderud)

Erica Schroeder, Jan Dehm, and Ron Miller (The Davis Family)

Rev. James and Elsie Mae Weaver and Norman and Glennice Carney (Doug and Pat Weaver)

Ivan and Jeanne Hull, Walter Fadal, George Khoury Jr., Noel, Kathryn, Caroline Williams, and Mary Alice Birdwhistell (Carroll and Hatt Fadal)

Raymond Shelton, Sr. (Alison Dillon)

Pat Melton and Barbara Wallace (Billie Canterbury)

Randy Lofgren (Ed and Karla Davis)

2018

Advent Schedule

December 6 Service of Consolation (7 PM)

December 7 Intergenerational Choir Christmas Party (6:30 PM)

December 8 Christmas Coffeehouse with Baylor's VirtuOSO (7 PM)

December 9 2nd Sunday of Advent

Intergenerational Choir-Led Worship (10:45 AM)

Children's Trip to "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" at Waco Civic Theatre (2 PM)

Youth Christmas Party (6 PM)

December 16 3rd Sunday of Advent

Calvary Christmas Open House at Mary Alice's Home (2 - 5 PM)

Youth Christmas Night Out At Painting with a Twist (4 - 6PM)

December 23 4th Sunday of Advent (No Sunday School)

December 24 Christmas Eve Service (6 PM)

Meal Trains For Our Calvary Family

Would you consider bringing food to the following families?

- Carole and Bryan Boyle: <https://mealtrain.com/y3d091>
- Christopher and Tiffany Rose: <https://mealtrain.com/q39wq5>
- Blake and Mallory Herridge: <https://mealtrain.com/00r3o3>



Men's Ministry Survey and Breakfast

Calvary is embarking on a new chapter of men's ministry with the leadership of Dave McCarroll, Tom Purdy, and the men's ministry breakfast group. If you're a male, 18 or older, and are post-high school, we would appreciate your feedback on this survey at <https://tinyurl.com/y84tru2n>. Hard copies are also available in the Welcome Center. For questions about this survey, please contact Dave McCarroll at dbmtx@mac.com.

Additionally, join the men for breakfast at Panera Bread (8th St.) on **Monday**,

December 10, at 6:45 AM. The men meet every second Monday of the month.

Christmas Coffeehouse – This Saturday!

We hope you'll join us **Saturday, December 8th**, for Calvary's Christmas Coffeehouse—an evening featuring Baylor's award-winning acapella group, VirtuOSO, the Methodist Children's Home Choir, EXCELLENT desserts, coffee, fellowship, and raising money for Calvary's 2019 mission trips! You're also encouraged to participate in our Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest. Suggested donations are \$10/person and no more than \$25/family. To sign up to bring a dessert for our auction, contact Lanna Palmer at Lanna_Palmer@baylor.edu.



Service of Consolation

Christmas is often characterized as “the most wonderful time of the year,” but for many, this time of the year reminds us of loss, grief, and loneliness. Calvary will hold its annual Service of Consolation on **Thursday, December 6 at 7:00pm**. If you find yourself feeling weary this Christmas season, join us for this time of quiet reflection, candle lighting, and remembrance.

Conversation with the Personnel Team

With several staff changes recently, the personnel team has been hard at work planning for the new year. The Coordinating Council will discuss and vote on job descriptions for the associate pastor, as well as an updated job description for the pastor on Sunday. The personnel team will also share plans for office administration and building management at Calvary. If you're interested in knowing more, please join us to hear about it on **Wednesday, December 12 at 6:30 pm**.

Preschool Coordinator Search

Do you love working with children? Do you have strong administrative and problem solving skills? Would you like to learn more about what it looks like to serve in church ministry? Calvary is searching for a new Pre-School Coordinator (10 hour/week position). If you are interested in applying, please contact Lauryn Everic at leveric@cbcwaco.net for more information and to receive the job



description and application. The deadline to apply is **next Friday, December 14.**



Ordination

At the unanimous recommendation of our Ordination Council, last week Calvary voted to ordain Ali Chappell DeHay and Lauryn Everic to gospel ministry. We will ordain Lauryn in a service at Calvary on **Saturday, December 15 at 11 AM** before she moves to Virginia the following week. If you have been touched by Lauryn's ministry with us here at Calvary, we hope you will make plans to join us for this special time.

Welcoming Chad Houk and Jordan Tucker

We are happy to announce that Chad Houk will become Calvary's organist beginning Sunday, December 23rd. Chad is a current doctoral student in church music at Baylor with a composition emphasis. With degrees from the University of Nebraska, he has worked as a professional accompanist, church musician, high school teacher, and adjunct faculty member. We welcome him to Calvary and look forward to his ministry among us.



Jordan Tucker will be adding the responsibility of Music and Worship Associate to his current position as church pianist. Jordan has served Calvary in an exemplary manner for the last 11 months, and we are pleased to work with him in this expanded capacity. Jordan's responsibilities will begin on December 17th.



Let's be in prayer for one another. Click [HERE](#) for the prayer list.

Ministerial Staff

Mary Alice Birdwhistell - Senior Pastor
mab@cbcwaco.net
Randall Bradley - Minister of Worship & Music
randall_bradley@baylor.edu
Ali Chappell DeHay - Minister to Youth
acdehay@cbcwaco.net
Lauryn Everic - Interim Minister to Children
leveric@cbcwaco.net

Administrative Staff

Guilherme Almeida - Worship & Music Associate
galmeida@cbcwaco.net
Phillip Sitton - Stewardship Administrator
psitton@cbcwaco.net
Nathan Spears - Office Administrator
cbcinfo@cbcwaco.net



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