



## Calvert City Church of Christ

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### What's a Christian to Do?

#### Elders

Dennis Driver  
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#### Deacons

Leslie Bean  
Ronnie Cox  
Nick Darnell  
Larry Davis  
Mike Dougherty  
Ross Dougherty  
Kyle Farris  
Jeff Hall  
Mark Hart  
Kevin Hunt  
Jamie Leonard  
Brad Parker  
Dale Roberts  
Gary Smith  
Barry Travis  
Jackie Travis

#### Preachers

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Fanatical militants attack a place of business and kill those who differ with and oppose their views. People are slaughtered and a message is sent: "You oppose us and mock us; we will kill you in the name of God." Though Christians are not part of this type of behavior, we are seen by the world to be committed to God. With such behavior magnified through constant broadcast of news and commentary, all religious people tend to get lumped together.

Also, remember that the statements of Jesus are radical and can be easily twisted by those in opposition to Him and the church. Jesus said: "*Do not think that I am come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.*" (Matthew 10:34, ESV); "*Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me, scatters.*"; "*If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life shall lose it, but who ever loses his life for my sake will find it.*"

Now, surely we understand that these statements have a context—that of spiritual devotion to Jesus. Our mission is to totally devote our lives to Jesus in such way, that even if we are physically threatened, we will allow ourselves to be killed before we would renounce Christ (Revelation 2:10). By no means does the mission of God include the aggressive, physical opposition of those who disagree with us. Jesus was bold, but in the end, he gave his life rather than physically harm those who opposed him.

The apostles were given a mission to preach Jesus and actively seek people and persuade them to follow Jesus. At the very outset of their mission, they were arrested and imprisoned. God chose at that time to miraculously deliver them, because the mission had to move forward (Acts 3-5). Please note the words of Peter and John in this regard: "*Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you rather than God, you must judge, for we cannot but speak of the things we have seen and heard*" (Acts 4:19, 20). Later, Peter and the apostles said this: "*We must obey God rather than men*" (Acts 5:29). The reaction to this attitude was, "*When they heard this, they (the council) were enraged and wanted to kill them*" (Acts 5:33).

Even though God physically delivered them from the early opposition, later he did not, and most of the apostles died because of their persistence and faithfulness to God. As far as we know, John was the only apostle who was not executed. Are we better than they? What if people mistake us, for the fanatics who kill people "in the name of God"? We must remain true to God and "be faithful unto death" (not killing, but being killed because of our devotion to Jesus). Sobering, isn't it? —Lance Cordle

## Dates to Remember:

**January 16-18**—Evangelism University  
**January 17**—Grief Workshop at Central, Paducah  
**January 26**—Monday Night for the Master  
**February 1-5**—FHU Lectureship  
**February 27 & 28**—Marriage Seminar at Calvert City  
**March 7**—Golden Age Banquet

## A Pause . . . And Reflection

As we begin the new year, there are plans and goals our leaders have for us as a congregation. The Lord willing, they will be announcing some of those things to us on Sunday morning, January 25th. I hope you will be here, first to worship God, in the usual time and place, but with an extra sense of expectation and purpose.

I want to repeat the request I made Sunday morning: If you are not comfortable doing it, I would love for you to share with me your favorite song (that we sing in worship, devotionals, etc.). I asked you several years ago for your favorite Bible verse and many of you freely shared those with me. I have already had several responses to the request for favorite songs, along with favorable comments about sharing them. So if you haven't thought about it, sit down and do so. When you narrow it down, tell me, email, text me, or give me the title on a sheet of paper (name on it, please)...and yes, if you can't narrow it to one, you can even give me two or three!

Austin and Brianne have been blessings to our congregation. I know the news of them leaving us to go to Tennessee makes us sad. However, this is what they have prepared for and dreamed of. It is also what we have helped prepare them to do and knew that they would do, eventually. He will be preaching fulltime for the West Dyersburg church of Christ. They will continue to do many of the same things there, that they have done here. So, we wish them the very best. They will be with us until the first part (8th) of March, so there will be time to visit with them and say "Goodbye." We will pray for them and encourage them as they prepare for this new phase of their life together.

I hope you have a great week.—Lance

**Ancient Truths for Modern Times**  
WCKK, FM—95.7  
Sundays 9:00 a.m.  
Speakers: Lance Cordle & Gary Knuckles



## Mission Spotlight: Benin, West Africa

On December 23, 2014, a letter concerning the work in Benin West Africa was received here. It was sent from the French African Christian Education (foundation), coordinating body of the work of the Benin Bible Training Center. It read, in part: "...As this year comes to an end and we reflect on all of the blessings that God has provided we see that working together, the Bible Training Center remains extremely fruitful and is certainly the result of God's provisions and blessings." The letter further states that it can be estimated that, through the preachers trained there... 200 faithful congregations, and more than 6000 souls are part of God's kingdom.

The congregation here at Calvert City continues to heartily support this work through the Benton church of Christ.

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## Birthdays: January 18-24

- ◆ 19—Kathy Hall
- ◆ 22—Gracie Harrington
- ◆ 23—Betty Hall
- ◆ 24—Imogene Hulsey

## Monday Night for the Master



January 26, 2015

6:00 p.m., Activities Building

### Remember in Prayer:

**Margaret Fonville** (mother of Vickie Counce)

—*Baptist Health, 274*

**Frank Marler** (father of Mike Marler & Cheryl Hall)—Murray Calloway Co. Hospital

**Joe Smith** (vascular) and **Eugene Cope** (knee) will both have surgery on January 19th.

### Nursing Home/Assisted Living:

*Calvert Convalescent Center*—**Edna Adams, Betty Clark, Nell Dobesh, Eedra Dossett, Sue Owen**

*Emeritus*—Room 208: **Mary Deane Swann**

*Lake Way Nursing & Rehab*—**Dora Davis**

*Oakview Manor*—**Nancy Hall**

## “Stronger Marriages”



**Friday & Saturday,  
February 27 & 28**

**Calvert City church building**

For more information, contact  
**Kevin Hunt or Ross Dougherty.**

### Record: Week of January 11, 2015

Mid-Week (December 31)	99
Bible Study	179
Sunday Morning Worship	234
Sunday Evening Worship	144
Contribution	\$10,366

## Christianity Allows You to be “Crazy Kid”

As a kid who dreamed of being a banker? As a kid who dreamed of being a sales rep? As a kid who dreamed of being a 9-5 worker with a 401K? No one! Why? As a kid, there are no thoughts of the future, one’s finances, or what simply “makes sense.” Let me also say, being a banker, sales rep, or simply working a 9-5 job is an admirable thing. Taking care of one’s family is one of the most important things in life. However, the point of this article is to say that as a Christian our hearts and minds are free to be different than the world around us. We get to create truly meaningful relationships and dream of an eternal future! Those are things that only “crazy kids” are free to do, right? Wrong.

As Christians we do not have to be stuck in the doldrums of life, attempting to fit in and go with the crowd (Romans 12:2). We are free to be different than the world around us. As Christians we are blessed to form relationships with people that will last through eternity! Just let that one sink in for a moment. Jesus said in John 14:3 that he has prepared a place for us to be with him and each other, in the presence of God for eternity. No other relationship has that power, power to overcome the pains and pressures of this life and touch eternity.

Jesus said in Matthew 18:3, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” (ESV) Could it be that Jesus wanted the “disciples” to be more like the crazy kids they saw running around each day? I cannot know for sure. Still, the principle remains that Christianity allows us to be “crazy kids” who are different than the world, with truly meaningful friendships, and hope in a certain eternity with God. Isn’t this something everyone would want to be a part of? Because who would love to be a “crazy kid” again!

**Pew Packers**

**January 18**

**Memory Verse: Romans 6:23**

# Schedule of Services

## Sunday

Bible Study — 9:15 a.m.  
Worship — 10:00 a.m.  
Evening Worship — 6:00 p.m.

## Wednesday

Mid-Week Bible Study—7:00 p.m.

### Bible Classes For All Ages

### Those Who Are To Serve:

Sunday, January 18, 2015

10:00 A.M.

*Song Leader:* Gayle Hall

*Opening Prayer:* Jeff Hall

*Closing Prayer:* William Smith

*Convalescent Ctr. Devo:* Jeff Hall

Gary Smith

January 18, P.M.

*Song Leader:* Dale Roberts

*Opening Prayer:* Jamie Leonard

*Closing Prayer:* Gary Smith

Wednesday, January 21, 2015

*Announcements:* Dennis Driver

*Song Leader:* Dale Roberts

*Opening Prayer:* Don Whirley

*Closing Prayer:* Mark Hart