

Building up the Body of Christ

# CALVARY TODAY

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Spring 2023



**“We need Warriors who will shine God’s light.”**

**“You have the hope the world needs. You bear the light. You are equipped for every good work. You carry the Good News.”**

*- Vicki Hartzler, former United States Congresswoman*

On May 6, the Calvary family gathered at South Haven Baptist to celebrate the Commencement of the graduating Class of 2023. A total of sixty-six students were recognized as candidates for graduation. Degrees conferred included five associate’s degrees, forty-four bachelor’s degrees, and seventeen master’s degrees.

Guest speaker Vicki Hartzler, former member of the U.S. House of Representatives, presented the

keynote address and exhorted the graduates to be lights in a dark world:

“These past several years have been times of preparation, preparing you to carry out a very important mission of taking Christ’s light to a dark world: shining His light; dispelling darkness; bringing forth a new day filled with hope, purpose, and power. You are lightbearers.”

Earlier in the week of graduation events Pastor Greg Washington, *(continued on next page)*

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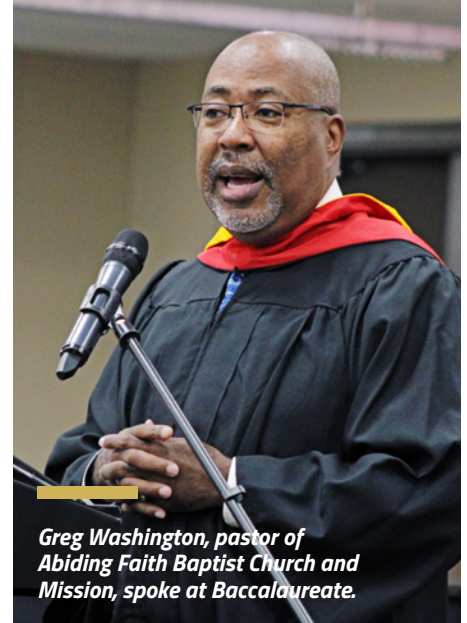
father of graduating senior Francine Washington, spoke at the Baccalaureate service. He addressed the graduates, faculty and staff, and current students, reminding them that, "All of this that you have done is not merely to receive pats on the back, smiles, and job opportunities. All of this that you have done is so that God can prepare and position you for future service."

Later on Friday, at the Awards Banquet and Alumni Induction,

graduates were recognized for outstanding achievements, honors, and military service. The graduates were also addressed by David Pierce (CBC10), member of Calvary's Alumni Association and pastor of Sherwood Bible Church, who shared about what it means to be an alumnus of Calvary. ■

**Adam Weeks**

Director of Marketing & Communications



*Greg Washington, pastor of Abiding Faith Baptist Church and Mission, spoke at Baccalaureate.*

## Calvary Welcomes...

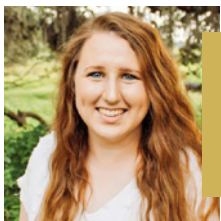


**Billy Edge** joins the Calvary University staff as Athletic Director & Men's Basketball Coach with over twenty-five years of experience. He has spent many years coaching at a variety of levels and environments that include the NCAA DI, NJCAA DI, NAIA, and NCCAA.

Edge played for two years at Cincinnati Christian University where he received his Bachelor's Degree (2005) in Biblical Studies for the Helping Professions while earning two minors in Sports Management and Coaching. He went on to earn his Master's Degree (2011) in Sports Coaching from the United States Sports Academy, graduating with honors.

His hobbies include studying the Bible, spending time with his wife and children, walking, tennis, and all things college basketball. Currently, he is writing a children's series on the attributes of God.

He and his wife, Lori, have seven children, Tristan (23), Cale (19), Blake (14), Brooke (13), Brayson (11), Porter (7), and Gunner Blade (2).



**Jojo Wilkes** has been hired as the new Women's Head Volleyball Coach at Calvary University. The former Faith Baptist Bible College volleyball standout has been named the tenth head coach in the history of the Calvary University volleyball program.

"What an honor and a gift it is to be at Calvary as the head volleyball coach. The years I spent playing volleyball had a great impact on my life, and I hope to be able to give the teams I coach a similar experience," noted Wilkes. "I'm ready to implement what I have learned over the years from my mentors and excited to bring in players and families to compete at Calvary."

Jojo married her husband Marcus seven years ago this coming August. They have two beautiful children, Addie (2) and Cohen (1). They currently live in Overland Park, Kansas. ■

**Jeanette Regier**

former Athletic Director



Our mission is to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and the world according to the biblical worldview.

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**Dr. Alexander Granados**, President  
**John McGee**, Chief Development Officer  
**Adam Weeks**, Director of Marketing & Communications  
**Grace Murphy**, Staff Writer and Photographer  
**Kara Miller**, Photographer  
**Demetrius White-Thomas**, Photographer

To subscribe to *Calvary Today*, provide alumni updates, or offer feedback, please visit [calvary.edu/alumni](http://calvary.edu/alumni).

# Conference on Global Engagement

The Conference on Global Engagement took place January 23-27, 2023. This year's theme was Engaging the Church in Local Missions, inspired by Acts 13:1-4 and its call for the church to raise up and send out missionaries. Calvary students had the opportunity to hear from a variety of chapel speakers, including Dr. Josh Paxton, Dr. Henry Vosburgh, Shawn Haynie, Dwight Hostetler, and John McGee.

Pastors, church leaders, and mission reps from over twenty-five different organizations attended, with many delivering seminars to students throughout the week. The conference also included a special track for local churches looking to improve their missions outreach and involvement. A particularly powerful seminar included "Strategies for Engaging Unreached People Groups in North America" by Dr. Mike Urton (Director of Immigrant Missions for EFCA), which featured a guest speaker from People Teams who



*Dr. Germaine Washington addressed attendees at the Business Leadership Roundtable.*

shared his experience spreading the gospel to unreached people groups within the Kansas City area. Following the conference, church leaders expressed gratitude for being included in this year's conference and gaining insight into the topics that were discussed.

Student responses were also positive, with some students connecting with mission reps Corrie (CBC06, CTS08) and Bethamy (CBS06, CTS08) Anderson to go on a mission trip to Mexico. **Next year's Conference on Global Engagement will continue with a similar theme—expanding the reach of the event to include the public and even more local church leaders. The current date for COGE 2024 is January 22-24, with public registration opening toward the end of October 2023. ■**



*Shawn Haynie (Adelphos-USA) addressed students, faculty, and staff in chapel during the Conference on Global Engagement.*

# Business Leadership Roundtable

On February 5-7, 2023, Calvary hosted its very first Business Leadership Roundtable event focused on how local business and ministry leaders can strategically retain top talent within their organizations. Guest speakers included Kevin Holman (District Manager of Chick-fil-A), Dr. Germaine Washington (Program Chair of the Business Administration Department and Dean of Graduate Students at Calvary), and Andrew Hawkins (graduating senior from Calvary's Ministry Studies department).

Speakers gave presentations on topics including employee engagement, coaching, and human capital analytics. After individual presentations, a panel discussion gave attendees the opportunity to respond to the topics previously addressed.

Many who attended Calvary's 2023 Business Leadership Roundtable expressed appreciation for the relevance of the topics discussed within today's business climate. Attendees also suggested the Business Department host future annual conferences to educate and equip leaders of business and ministry organizations.

**On February 6, 2024, Calvary University's Leadership Roundtable will feature both a Business track and a Bible & Theology track. ■**

**Grace Murphy**  
Staff Writer



## Why is Calvary University Needed?

### Part 1: The Shift

*“In the flaring parks, in the taverns, in the hushed academies, your murmur will applaud the wisdom of a thousand quacks. For theirs is the kingdom.”<sup>1</sup>*

This question is one that we must answer, especially in a country where our educational system has historically been based on the beliefs of Protestantism. Why is Calvary University needed when for centuries Christian colleges and universities have played a major role in both Western intellectual history and the history of the church?

Many of the most well-known institutes of higher education

in America began as training grounds for pastors. Harvard, Yale, Princeton, and many others affirmed the usefulness of a liberal arts curriculum as preparation for service to both church and society. Christian scholars emphasized an empirical approach both to science and to the study of language and literature. In America the academy was responsible not merely for the accumulation of knowledge, but also

the moral and spiritual formation of the students. The liberal arts were useful because they were founded on the truth of the God of creation.

*Christian scholars emphasized an empirical approach both to science and to the study of language and literature.*

<sup>1</sup> Kenneth Fearing, “Conclusion,” in *Vision of the Anointed: Self-Congratulations as a Basis for Social Policy*, Thomas Sowell (New York: Basic Books, 1995), v.

Calvary University is founded on the historic principle of preparing students for service in the church and in the world. It is likewise based on the idea that students should not merely seek to grow in their knowledge, but also grow in their ability to apply moral and spiritual truths to their lives. This being the case, with all the other universities that have the same founding principle, why is Calvary still needed today?

The answer is one that we can all see with our own eyes. Harvard, Yale, Princeton, etc., no longer cling to their historical purpose. In the last half of the nineteenth century, higher education began to move away from its founding principles. The accepted aim of higher education—disciplining the mind and building the character of students through a rigorous liberal arts curriculum and strict adherence to religious dogma—came under scrutiny. The appetite for freedom and autonomous spirit of the Enlightenment gave rise to those who labored to transform higher education. No longer was it acceptable to pursue the twin aims of accumulating knowledge and forming character, instead they desired to create a religiously neutral civilization.



***Calvary University is committed to providing appropriate educational curricula and a climate that fosters the development of intellectual and spiritual maturity, leadership potential, servanthood, and a sense of mission.***

In order to achieve this, they took aim at dismantling what they perceived to be the intellectual stronghold of narrow minded and elitist Christians. To decrease the presence of Christians in the church, academy, and civil society, they attacked the source: Christian higher education. They did this by using the three-pronged approach of Utility, Research, and Science.

These three weapons are still trained on institutions of Christian

higher education today. In the next several editions of Calvary Today, I will explore this triad of issues and how, despite them, Calvary University is still standing firmly on the relevance of the Word of God to everyday life. ■

*Alexander Granados*

**Alexander Granados**  
President

***In the last half of the nineteenth century, higher education began to move away from its founding principles. The accepted aim of higher education—disciplining the mind and building the character of students through a rigorous liberal arts curriculum and strict adherence to religious dogma—came under scrutiny.***



# The Steward's Pen



**“There is a lad here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are these for so many people?”**

— John 6:9 (NASB 95)

The people followed for a long distance. There were no markets around. Some say the crowd was more than 12,000.

Christ asks the disciples, “Where are we to buy bread?” knowing the answer.

Five barley loaves and two fish. A peasant meal for maybe two people. This is all they could come up with.

Yet, when all had eaten, twelve

baskets full of food remained uneaten. How? The mind asks and marvels.

You may have faced a similar situation at some point in your life, either personally or professionally. Many are the stories of provision that only can be understood as coming from Jehovah-Jireh.

Calvary faces a similar situation. We have five loaves and two fish and a need that seems like it is a meal for 12,000. We’ve been here before, and God has graciously provided for us each time.

Your testimony may be similar, and, in your mind, you can replay the details of need and supply.

Today, through a generous friend, God has supplied a \$230,000 challenge match. The need is \$750,000 by the end of June. Already God is supplying; 46% of the match has been received as of June 8th.

Do you have a loaf or fish that could be shared?

A walk of faith in Christ challenges us to trust him in all ways. Some days are more challenging than others. We trust him for provision.

We can each imagine the thoughts in the mind of the disciples — “This is impossible. Send them away.”

And yet, even though his closest followers could not see the provision to come, He used them to provide.

Today, will you let God use your loaf or fish to supply this need? ■

**John McGee**

Chief Development Officer



*Martha Olango (right) graduated from Calvary with a degree in Biblical Education in 2009.*

## Alumni Spotlight

### Martha Olango

Martha Olango is this year’s Alumni Association Award recipient due to her outstanding ministry impact in Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) in East and Central Africa.

Martha’s ministry journey took flight when God called her to start working for CEF. She began a job within Mombasa, Kenya, and then moved to Nairobi in 1999 to later work as an education director in 2000. When she felt the need to earn a degree in biblical education, Martha attended Calvary University. Reflecting on her biblical education, Martha states: “With Calvary’s training, I was motivated and equipped to serve effectively,

# Calendar of Events

## JULY

3-7 – Summer Break

## AUGUST

10 – Faculty/Staff In-Service

17-19 – Student Orientation

28-31 – Lecture Series

## SEPTEMBER

13 – Christian Ministry Fair

28 – **President's Dinner**

## OCTOBER

16-20 – Fall Break

23 – Fall Semester Begins

27 – Fall Social

## NOVEMBER

1 – Day of Prayer

22-24 – Thanksgiving Break

## DECEMBER

1 – **Masterworks Chorus**

2 – **Fall Acting Recital**

18 – Christmas Break Begins

For more details, visit  
[calvary.edu/calendar](http://calvary.edu/calendar)



**Martha was presented the 2023 Alumni Association Award at Calvary's commencement on May 6th in recognition of her outstanding ministry.**

prepared to lead with confidence, and ready to serve with integrity." After graduation, Martha moved back to Kenya where she worked for a short time as an assistant to CEF's Regional Education Director and later took on the position full-time in 2010.

In her current role as Regional Education Director for East and Central Africa, Martha has played a wildly influential role in teaching children, training teachers, and developing instructors and leaders for CEF. This work often requires that she go into very dangerous areas. Martha has made a great impact on is CEF's Christian Youth in Action program (CYIA), where she has faithfully trained teenagers to reach other children with the gospel. This training program began in Kenya but has now been developed in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Tanzania, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Burundi. Before Covid, nearly five hundred teens were trained each year. Within her local church, Martha has served in children's ministry while also

organizing a ministry to help meet the needs of single, young women in the church, known as EPIC. She has also extended great love and care for those in her local community, helping support several disadvantaged young people and being a light of Christ to those in her neighborhood.

Eidene Anderson, a friend of Martha and former missionary stated: "Martha's ministry has reached thousands of people with the gospel. She has impacted people personally as well as trained godly leaders who are maturing in their faith so that they too can share the gospel." Whether it is her impact on CYIA or reaching out to people within her community, Martha is known by those around her as a faithful servant who is continually studying, training others in ministry, and displaying courage in her faith.

In gratitude for her years of ministry and service to God, Calvary is beyond honored to present Martha with this year's Alumni Association Award. ■

**Grace Murphy**  
Staff Writer

**SAVE THE DATE**

# *President's Dinner*

## September 28, 2023

Marriot Kansas City  
10800 Metcalf Avenue, Overland Park

## Alumni Updates

### MARRIAGES

■ **DANIEL PITTS (CU22)** and **JULIANA HOURIHAN (CU21)**, May 13, 2023

### DEATHS

■ **GORDON DEAN KATSION (KCBC58)**, February 14, 2023 (age 88)

■ **MONNIE SCHRODER (MB57\*)**, April 21, 2023 (age 91)

### UPDATES

#### 1980s

■ **KERMIT LOWERY (CBC89)** is serving as camp director at Rock Haven Bible Camp in Hasty, Arkansas.

#### 2010s

■ **STEPHEN (CBC09)** and **AMELIA (HAJDA, CBC16) RODGERS** currently reside in Nebraska with their five children. Stephen works as a Demand Planner and Project Manager.

## Memorial Gifts

### IN MEMORY OF BILL KELLY

Pleasant Grove Bible Church

### IN MEMORY OF ROSIE WONG

Marilyn Lee, Meredith Reu, and Bernice Yee

### IN MEMORY OF RICHARD WRIGHT (MB54\*)

Joyce Narveson and Norma Jean Smith

\*Non-degree-holding

Do you have updates to share? Please visit [calvary.edu/alumni](https://calvary.edu/alumni) and use the contact form to let us know what God has been doing in your life!