

# Orlando AG Church to Distribute 100,000 Meals on Resurrection Sunday

Faced with the stark reality of an empty sanctuary on the most important Sunday of the year, Calvary Orlando church leaders felt Holy Spirit conviction to spread the Good News of Jesus' Resurrection in a unique and unfamiliar way.

On April 12, Easter, Calvary Orlando, with the help of Convoy of Hope, will distribute 100,000 meals to local residents. The church's parking lot and sanctuary will serve as a distribution center for food for those in need while it broadcasts its livestream message of Jesus' glorious Resurrection. Approximately 200 volunteers, as well as some members of the Orlando Police Department, will distribute groceries to cars in a drive-thru service.

The majority of churches around the country will hold Easter services online only due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But Calvary Orlando Senior Pastor Ed Garvin says the enemy will fail in trying to prevent God and His children from being a light to the lost and wayward in the community.

"We certainly knew that Easter would look different this year. But still, it is a moment each year to pause and truly reflect on the wonder of the indescribable gift that God has given us," Garvin says. "We knew that we couldn't let Easter pass without marking this truly remarkable moment for God in a truly remarkable way.

"On Sunday morning, we will broadcast a message of hope and joy. We will turn our worship center into a distribution center. Since the beginning of COVID-19, we have been reaching tens of thousands of people in our meetings through livestream, much more exponentially than we have with our

regular services. But we wanted to get the community to have a tangible understanding of how much God loves people, so we decided that we would provide 100,000 meals to people on Sunday to show them just that.”

Convoy of Hope’s trucks rolled into Orlando from its headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, on Wednesday to bring food for the Sunday distribution. On Resurrection Sunday, cars will roll through Calvary Orlando’s parking lot, and, with the blessing of and adhering to the guidelines set down by local officials, volunteers will ask those coming through whether they would like their four bags of groceries placed in either the back seat or the trunk of their vehicles.

Calvary Orlando shares an ongoing partnership with Convoy of Hope. The two combined for a huge community outing at Orlando’s Tinker Field in July 2019, where several tons of food were distributed to the needy and other community activities were held.

Sunday’s event at Calvary is only part of Convoy of Hope’s initiative provide 10 million meals to those in need during the COVID-19 crisis.

For the last two weeks, Calvary Orlando has also been part of a program to distribute 11,000 meals daily to those families who attend Orange County schools. That program will last for a month.

“Obviously, none of us have been in a moment like we are in today,” Garvin says. “What we know is this. The mission of the church does not shift based on circumstances. As long as we stay true to the mission of the church, God will consistently show up. Our ministry may look different, but this is the opportunity that we have to really bring value to people’s lives and show the wonder of Jesus.

“This crisis has really helped to open doors. We are seeing new groups form at our church, new people getting involved in

ministry. We're having great conversations with people that are connecting with us—not just in Orlando, but around the world. While this COVID-19 pandemic was not something that was designed by God, it is something God is using to work all things together for His good.

“No, we're not going to have regular church on Easter Sunday, but we are going to reach the community in a way that only God could orchestrate. Everything we're doing is for His glory.”

For more information about Calvary Orlando's 100,000-meal initiative on Easter, visit [.](#)