

calvary life

NOVEMBER 2011

Understanding Advent...9 & 15

Open Door Vision 2011...12



Come to Christmas! Festival of Lights 2011
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If you plan on attending one of the many events that occur at Calvary on Wednesday night, or would enjoy a good home cooked meal that you did not have to prepare, or would just like to dine with family and friends, come to the Wednesday Fellowship Dinner. Our goal is to present to you excellent "Center of the Plate" entrees featuring original recipes from Chef Rod, Chef Neal, and Chef PJ that include complimentary sides, crisp green tossed salad, dessert, and assorted beverages.

The cost is low, \$5 for the featured meal, or \$15.00 for Family Meal which would be two adult and three Hero Meals. If children included in the Family Meal are served the featured meal or the Super Hero Meal the cost is an additional \$2 each.

We serve from 5:00-6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

For the Kids

New this year is the Healthy Hero Meal. This meal is designed to be healthy, nutritious, and tasty. The Healthy Hero will be offered to children under ten only. All Healthy Hero options will include salad bar, roll, low-fat milk, vegetable of the day, or carrot sticks and apple sauce. Bareman ice cream cups will be available for dessert. Parents, if you're looking for a balanced dinner for your children, this will be the option to choose.

For the children we will offer the Healthy Hero Meal for \$3 or the traditional Hero Meal which is a hot slice of Chef PJ's homemade pizza squares, or a hot dog and mac-n-cheese for \$3. For the "Super Hero" in all of us you can have two squares or two dogs for \$5.

NOVEMBER 2

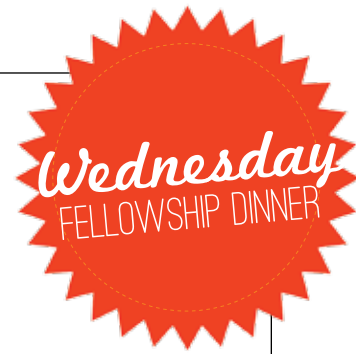
Middle of the Week Comfort Food

Baked Meatloaf

Chef's classic rustic terrine, with ultra lean ground sirloin, served with sauce espagnole

Steamed Santa Fe Vegetables & Mashed Potatoes

Healthy Hero Meal: Whole Grain Pasta with Meatballs & Vegetable of the Day



NOVEMBER 9

Chinatown Favorite

Chicken Chop Suey

Chef's homemade original recipe

Asian Style Vegetables

Pork Egg Roll

Served with plum sauce

Healthy Hero Meal: Grilled Chicken with BBQ Sauce and Steamed Rice

NOVEMBER 16

note: the family plan will be suspended on this night

Down Home Thanksgiving Dinner

Oven Roast Turkey

Tender, juicy and savory

Green Bean Casserole

Fresh Cranberry & Orange Relish

Chef Neal's original recipe

Mashed Potatoes

Wild Rice and Apple Dressing

And for the first time at WFD...

Pumpkin Pie and Whipped Cream for Dessert!

Healthy Hero Meal: Ground Beef Steaks and Mashed Potatoes

NOVEMBER 30

Home, Home on the Range

Homemade Lip-Lickin' Good BBQ Pork on a Bun

Slow cooked and tender, piled high on Chef's homemade 4" sweet roll

Calvary's Original Recipe Potato Salad

Austin Baked Beans

A mélange of dried beans cooked Texas style

Coleslaw on the Salad Bar

Healthy Hero Meal: Grilled Ham Steak and Mac-n-Cheese

good to know

Experiencing a Crisis?

For those of you who are experiencing a crisis, or perhaps are going through a difficult emotional, spiritual, or relationship situation, Stephen Ministry & Lay Counseling can help. Contact Phyllis Dykstra at 784-1858.

College Scholarships Available

Winter semester applications are now being accepted for single parents and/or their children who wish to pursue their education. The Roger W. Smith Scholarship Fund has helped many in the past with tuition costs and has been a huge blessing to those who have participated. The deadline for applications is December 9. Calvary

Church is grateful for the privilege of assisting in this way. To apply for an educational scholarship, contact Lynnell Bok (lbok@calvarygr.org) at ext. 3510.

Explore Calvary

Are you new to Calvary Church? Are you finding it hard to navigate or get plugged in? Journey together with us on Wednesday, November 2 and 9 in room 130 from 5:15-6:30pm in an informal setting to share a meal together, meet staff, tour the building, meet others new to Calvary, and learn more about Calvary. Reservations are needed by Monday, October 31 to Sharon Kaiser (skaiser@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5077.

Who You Gonna Call?

If you get hurt or are not feeling well while you are at church, who do you call? We hope you will use a "help phone" to call someone on our Emergency Response Team (ERT). Our Facility team members, along with volunteer medical/safety professionals, make up the ERT and are always available whenever the facility is open. They are trained in basic first aid, CPR, AED and can give emergency oxygen if needed. Along with being able to do emergency care, if needed they coordinate with the EMS, first responders and our parking lot team to get medical assistance to the hurting. If you have emergency response training in the medical or security fields and would like to join our team, contact Ken Meines (kmeines@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5125.

connections

getting to know calvary



5 QUESTIONS with Katie Mateer Creative Arts Facilitator

1. What is your role at Calvary Church?

My role is to encourage the development and implementation of the arts at Calvary. Currently I am serving through the Festival of Lights production. This is a wonderful and challenging role.

2. What encourages you most as you minister in the creative arts?

What encourages me most is seeing people serve God through their creative and God-given abilities. Even more, I am encouraged through observing the Church affected, strengthened and most importantly drawn closer into His presence through the unique voice of the arts. God longs for us to experience Him in powerful and intimate ways, and I believe the arts can be a vessel by which we can truly encounter the living God.

3. How have you experienced life{together}?

Life{together} has so many layers. In part we experience the layer of sacrifice, as we all work tirelessly together at rehearsals as weeks turn into months in preparation for Festival of Lights. Community takes time, effort and work. FOL demands such. Thankfully community is not only work, it also has a wonderful layer of joy. We have fun in Festival of Lights! Community is also a spiritual undertaking. As a cast, we have fasted and spiritually cried out to God for His provision, His protection and that His power and His Glory would be demonstrated in and through us as we serve together.

4. How has God recently revealed Himself in your community?

His love is revealed as we acknowledge our complete dependency upon him. From this starting point each year we see God fill all of our needs. In his great love he orchestrates hundreds to serve together and offer their gifts to God. Lighting designers, set designers, costume designers and many more begin to dream together and a community, a living breathing and life changing experience is formed. Our hope is that all those who attend Festival would experience the love and power of Christ working in and through us.

5. How can the Calvary family pray for you and your ministry this month?

My prayer is to be a godly and wise leader—a leader that is constantly yearning to see His face (Psalm 62). I ask for prayer for His sustaining power during the demanding rehearsal schedule of FOL. Pray that our cast would be anointed and please God by the sacrifice we seek to bring. Pray that the creative arts ministry will grow and bless the church. We began our first drama and dance workshops this summer; what an exciting time! Pray that God would bless the creative arts ministry beyond what we could imagine (Ephesians 3:20).

ON THE BOOKSHELF

recommended reading for november
found in the calvary library

the history of the calvary library *remembering betty kregel*



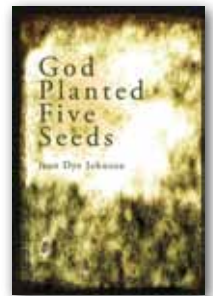
Calvary Church Library began as a few bookcases in the board room of the church on Michigan Avenue, when a private collection was donated for church use. Betty Kregel was instrumental from the very beginning in promoting the library and finding volunteers to serve. Her dedication to the library with her time and her donation of many books enabled the library to grow. The library was packed up and moved to a larger space in the old church four different times. The fifth move in 1986 to its present location in the new church on the East Beltline was under her direction.

Media was added to the library collection when former Pastor Gardiner's wife, Doris, donated a collection of her husband's sermons on cassette. Shortly thereafter, videos were added when the Single's Class donated a video seminar they had used in their class. Today, the library's collection contains over 11,500 items and includes books, books on CD, DVDs and music CDs. Those of us who have worked with Betty Kregel miss her cheerful spirit and ready smile. Her generosity has made the library what it is today!



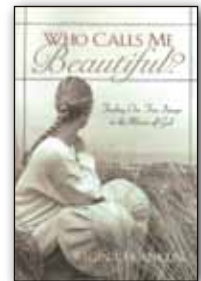
Dan Lilley,
Worship Pastor

God Planted Five Seeds is written by Jean Dye Johnson, widow of one of the five martyrs who laid down their lives while trying to reach the Ayore tribe of Bolivia with the Gospel of Christ. This book is a stirring account of the Holy Spirit moving in the lives of willing Christians to give all for the cause of Christ.



Cathy Oosse
Festival of Lights 2011
Cast Member

Who Calls Me Beautiful? Finding our True Image in the Mirror of God will help women learn to see themselves as God sees them. The world screams, "I am what I look like!" and encourages us to allow food and exercise to determine our value. This book teaches how vastly different God's definition of beauty is from the world's. After applying the biblical principles, the feelings of inadequacy and self-hatred that bind us will dissolve in the realization of God's love and grace.



All the books mentioned above are available in Calvary's Library. The Library is located across from Fellowship Hall on the lower level. The hours are Sunday, 9:15 - 11:15am; 5:15 - 5:45pm; Wednesday, 9:15 - 9:45am; 6:00 - 7:30pm. Our library collection is searchable online! This helpful search tool will enable you to view all of the library's resources from the convenience of your home. You can find us at: calvarygr.org/ministries/library.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

by judie fielstra



When my husband Larry and I attended Calvary Church for the first time 23 years ago, we found the size of the congregation quite intimidating. Where do we fit in? How do we make friends? These were just a few of the questions we asked.

Larry began ushering and I joined the choir and serving did give us opportunities to meet new people. I even came on staff at Calvary 21 years ago, but that still didn't bring us to the point of developing relationships with others where we were doing life together.

Five years ago we received a letter in the mail from Calvary Community asking us if we would be willing to host a community group in our home. Our immediate response was sure, why not? We met with other new leaders on a Sunday morning and had training on what was expected of our group: to meet together, study God's Word together, pray for one another, and to care for each other.

We were assigned three couples and two singles that lived in our area. That was November 2006, and today all of the original people except for one couple are still part of our group and we've added seven more. We range in age from 24-69. We've studied books of

the Bible and other books, but the most important aspect of our group is in praying for one another. We've had individuals who have lost jobs, had issues with children, had health problems and more, yet we stand together in prayer.

Last year as we were studying John Dickson's book, *The Best Kept Secret of Christian Mission*, we all felt led to give to someone in need. From one group member we learned of a newly divorced mom with teenagers who was struggling financially, so we took an offering to secretly give to this family. What a joy to share our abundance with those in need!

This past summer several of our group had the opportunity to spend a few days in the Leelanau Peninsula where two of our group members got married. It was delightful to be part of their special day!

I firmly believe that community with others is a huge part in growing in Christ. As we share life {together} we are able to experience the growth and caring that come from being part of one another's lives. I am thankful and blessed to be part of this group.

Are you looking for community?

To help make this kind of community accessible to everyone, we are launching lots of new Community Groups at Calvary. There is a group for everyone! **Neighborhood groups** meet in homes throughout the area. **Family groups** are intended to help entire families experience community together. **Global groups** are new and will have a focus on living a missional life. **Monday Night Bible Study groups** meet here at the church. We also continue to have a myriad of groups for **Women, Men, Young Adults** and **Seniors**, along with a number of **Support Groups**.

Ready to get connected?

Stop at the Connection Point on Sundays or contact Karen VanHolstyn (kvanholstyn@calvarygr.org) at 956-9377, ext. 5173.

BEHIND THE SCENES

Serving at Calvary with Kristine Heckathorn

Where do you currently serve at Calvary?

I am presently on the Women's Event Planning Committee serving as the coordinator for our next Women's event: *Meet Me at the Marketplace*. This event will take place at Calvary in the evening on November 10. We will be creating a Marketplace setting complete with the sights, sounds, smells and tastes of a market in order for Calvary's community of women to come, eat, shop and share time together with friends.

How did you begin serving at Calvary?

Well, in an effort to show my appreciation to the nursery workers who allowed my husband and I to enjoy quiet and still Sunday morning services, I began volunteering regularly in the nursery. As new parents at that time, I saw how my willingness to serve opened up opportunities for others to receive the same blessings given me. From there, many more opportunities have arisen where I have been able to continue to use both my time and talents.



KRISTINE HECKATHORN

What challenges have you encountered in your ministry?

The one that immediately comes to mind is the feeling of not being qualified. At times I have been asked to fill a need where I didn't feel I was equipped with the skills, gifts or time to do the job "well." But God has been teaching me, with each new challenge in life, to lean more and more on Him, depending on Him to fulfill His promise to equip me for His work (Hebrews 13:21) and, to no surprise, He continues to be Faithful!

How has God blessed you through serving?

In an attempt to "see" God's blessings for me this summer I began writing down the things I was Thankful for each day and the Blessings I experienced. I uncovered that my list of blessings is endless and that it is only when I stop looking for them that my count slows down. Many of those blessings may not be direct results of my willingness to serve but in a roundabout way they are. God has used each stage of my life to draw me closer and strengthen

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SERVING OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND
.....
If you are a child of God, He has gifted you to serve in the body of Christ. Find out how you can get connected to use your abilities and passions, by contacting Judie Fielstra (jfielstra@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5095. Go online to our Serving Ministry page to see some of our current serving needs.
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my relationship with Him, while teaching me new depths of trust and dependence.
.....
Opening my eyes to see God's hand at work all around me. What a blessing it is to serve such a cool God!
.....

How do you experience community at Calvary?

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My family and I are involved in a number of different communities here at Calvary where we have the opportunity to "do life together" with other believers. Some of them are blessings to us as a family unit (our "new" community group we started this summer and our Adult Sunday Class we've been attending for years) while others are for me personally (the "new" Women's Bible Study program, *The Gathering Place*, and my beloved WLDF group with whom I have traveled far). Each of these groups has strengthened my relationship with God in unique ways, together allowing me to be loved, valued and transformed.
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DISCOVERY

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Discovery can help you learn more about your spiritual walk, your spiritual gifts and connecting with others at Calvary as you meet with trained staff members. Fill out a Discovery card at the Information Center to receive your packet, go online to our Serving Ministry page or contact Sharon (skaiser@calvarygr.org) at ext 5077.
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SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY



Simply Stated

By Elleen Fitzgerald, *Assistant Director, Special Needs Ministry*

Freely and openly expressing how you feel about life and what you believe can be challenging for just about anyone. Adults with disabilities are not exempt from the same challenges. At Go-Getters, students are encouraged to share the joys and sorrows they face each day openly and freely, knowing that God is listening, and that his people will be praying. No problem is too great or too small, and they rejoice with one another over answered prayers. They are confident that others in the group genuinely understand and will not judge them.

Recently in the Go-Getters class, one of our students shared a poem that candidly expresses what she believes and gives insight into her life.



*The sky is blue
When I think things are hard for me
I remember the Lord is here to help me
Through the hard times
I believe that His love is true
I need the story to believe
I am worth more than trash
Because the love of the Lord is so precious*

The poem is followed by a big heart with "I love Jesus Christ" in it. The words she writes may seem a bit confusing, but her message is clear that life has been very difficult but she knows her God is there to take care of her. She loves the Lord with all her heart and shows her love by eagerly serving others in the Special Needs Ministry.

Our Special Needs Ministry is exploding and we strive daily to meet the needs of so many individuals like the gal who wrote this poem. Prayer for this ministry is the life blood that keeps it going. If you have a list of people that you regularly pray for please add us to that list.

Please pray that the eyes of their hearts may be enlightened in order that they may know the hope to which he has called them, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Mentoring

Are you a senior adult who loves the Lord and wishes everyone understands faith the way you do?

Are you a college student looking for an opportunity to help someone more clearly understand their faith?

Have you ever wondered how the Holy Spirit could use you in the lives of those with special needs to help open their hearts and eyes to the love of Jesus so they too can be filled with the Holy Spirit?

The special needs department staff has created a wonderful tool called "Understanding Faith in Jesus." This booklet simply and clearly brings the students to understanding faith. Approximately 20 adults with special needs are waiting for someone to walk through this booklet with them. They have already accepted Jesus in their hearts but either want to become members of Calvary or be baptized. If you are looking for a blessing in your life, this is an opportunity that you should consider.

Students are usually available for mentoring on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings.

Feel free to call Elleen or Judi at 956-9377 for additional details and information.

Praise God, that on October 16, six students who were mentored in their faith were publicly baptized.

✳ **If you feel God tugging at your heart strings to serve within this ministry, please give us a call.**

Contact: Elleen Fitzgerald // efitzgerald@calvarygr.org // ext. 5623

freeze!

A Family Advent Devotional Guide

Available at the Children's
check-in desks,
beginning November 13!

Don't you love getting snowed in? School stops, work stops, and the "urgent" business is halted . . . not so urgent I guess! The world around you seems frozen, allowing you to time to get caught up, spend time with family, enjoy a warm cup of coffee or hot chocolate. In our busy world, it's hard to slow down and think.

Christmas. When you hear that word, what comes to mind? Hope or wish lists? Peace or rushing? It's difficult to stop and remember Christ, let alone soak in the peace and hope we experience through Him. Then you add the presents, celebrations, shopping, gatherings, and more presents . . . Let's face it, we wish we had a plan to cancel the "Holiday" traffic (even the good parts), freeze time, and settle down.

This year, we want to put a "freeze" on Christmas so we can quiet our souls and remember that our hope, peace, joy, and love come only through Christ.

If you want to slow down this Christmas, we invite you to use this family devotional guide to help your family "freeze" some moments during the holidays. This collection of stories, Scripture readings, devotionals, prayers and suggested activities will guide you through the traditional topics of Advent: hope, peace, joy and love. Use it to ponder Christ's coming, consider what it means for us, and remember the meaning of the season.

Pick up your copy on November 13, 20 or 27 at the Children's check-in desks. Free for families registered in Kingdom Kids Children's Ministry (one per family). Additional Guides available for \$5 donation.



one heart

CALVARY MISSIONS & OUTREACH 2011-2012

ONE HEART FOR THE CITY:

Take Hold Church Christmas



As a gesture of our love and support for Shane & Heather Cox and Take Hold Church, we will be collecting items for their benevolent ministry. At Take Hold,

the Cox's minister to those who would not normally go to a church and God is blessing their efforts, and lives are being transformed in urban Grand Rapids. Shane & Heather have a burden for these people, and helping to provide for their physical needs is a point of contact for them.

Beginning on November 20, you will find Christmas trees in the entrances at Calvary, with specific items written on the ornaments. Please take as many ornaments as you would like, purchase those items, and bring your unwrapped gifts to the Calvary Café on **December 4 and 11**.



WISH LIST FOR TAKE HOLD CHURCH

For their benevolent ministry:

Clothing all sizes - *Infant through Adult, NEW and unwrapped*

Clothes

Coats

Hats

Gloves

Scarfs

Boots

Toys

Meijer gift cards

For the church:

Water bottles

Snacks

Toilet paper

Napkins

Plates

Paper towels

Coffee

Computer paper

Cleaning supplies

Craft supplies



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Box collection begins November 6

Join us again this year as we seek to bring joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world. Make a difference in their lives through the gift of a simple shoebox filled with small toys, and items the rest of us take for granted. Use a standard size shoe box, or a small plastic container – boxes will not be supplied - and as you are filling your box, pray for the child who will be receiving it. A limited supply of donation envelopes with labels is available at the children's check-in desks at Entrances K and M, and at the Information Desk at the back of the sanctuary. Online giving is also available, as well as labels to print; go to www.samaritanaspurse.org/occ. **Bring your filled boxes on November 6, 13, or 20** to one of the drop-off locations in Entrance C, J, or N.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH



Hundreds of millions of Christians – nearly 70% of the world’s population – live in countries with high restrictions on religion, and suffer severe discrimination, imprisonment, torture, kidnappings, and even death. . . because they have decided to

follow Jesus Christ. The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church (IDOP) **on November 13** is a global day of intercession for persecuted Christians worldwide. Its primary focus is to encourage intercessory prayer on behalf of persecuted communities of the Christian faith. Through prayer and advocacy, Christians in the United States are urged to join millions who share our faith but not our freedom.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30
6:00pm | Sanctuary

Join us on October 30 to “hear our heart” for the world. Jim Samra will share our vision for missions, plus there will be time to focus on our short-term missions and missionaries.

With our last 2011 short-term team in Mozambique this month, it is time to thank those of you who were part of one or more of this year’s trips – either through prayer support, financial giving, or by going. Close to 150 middle school and high school students and adults of all ages impacted Grand Rapids, the United States, and the world. As we look forward to 2012, we are already praying for those who will be involved in praying, supporting, or going.

Following the October 30 service, come to a **reception in Fellowship Hall** to share about the trips planned for 2012. Please plan to join us!

THANKSGIVING OFFERING: FORGOTTEN MAN MINISTRIES



The community ministry we will focus on this year at our **Thanksgiving Eve service on November 23** is Forgotten Man Ministries. FMM brings together inmates, chaplains, and lay-workers in the study and ministry of God’s Word for the primary purpose of evangelism and discipleship, through the placement of trained and dedicated chaplains within Michigan county jails. FMM chaplains conduct daily in-house jail ministries that include Biblical one-on-one counseling, Bible correspondence courses, group Bible studies, discipleship training units,

distribution of Bibles and Christian books, showing of Christian DVD’s, and the facilitation of pastor visits and local church worship services. Forgotten Man Ministries follows in Christ’s footsteps by bringing the healing powers of the Great Physician to those incarcerated in our Michigan jails and prisons. You may give toward Forgotten Man Ministries at the Thanksgiving Eve service by marking “Forgotten Man” on your check or envelope.

Living Water

in an "Arab Spring"

For over 15 years Calvary Church has created a yearly project to bless the community and the nations called **Open Door Vision** (ODV). Our desire is to open new doors of opportunity for the gospel to be proclaimed through the world.

This year, God is leading Calvary to reach the Arab world in the Middle East and North Africa. To do this, we will partner with four organizations that are doing amazing work in reaching people for Jesus in the midst of the "Arab Spring."

"Arab Spring" has been defined as the pro-democracy uprisings currently sweeping the Middle East and North Africa. Whether or not democracy will take root in countries like Egypt, Yemen, Syria, Libya and Algeria is uncertain. What is certain is that in the midst of all the turbulence, God is working in amazing ways and tens of thousands are coming to know Jesus in a personal way in this area of the world.

Followers of Jesus have lived in the region since the time of Christ, but intense pressures have severely restricted their activities...forcing many to keep their worship, Bible study and other Christian activities behind closed doors.

MEDIA PARTNERS

Almost a half a billion people live in this region, which stretches from Morocco to Afghanistan. The area includes the fantastically wealthy and the abysmally poor. But whether they live in shining glass skyscrapers or in desert tents, the people of the Middle East and North Africa are united in their love for television. For this reason, we plan to support Middle East Media, and SAT-7. Satellite TV is the most popular media in the Middle East and North Africa, and it is very difficult to block. Satellite TV can touch lives even in the most remote place, and Middle East Media and SAT-7 are making the Gospel available to every home in the region.

Middle East Media airs programs that attract people to a loving, forgiving God — a God that is unknown to most that follow the primary religion of the area. SAT-7's broadcasts are helping local Christians take the life and witness of the church directly into homes across the region, enabling millions of people to hear and see the Good News, and to meet Middle Eastern Christians for the first time. More than 75% of programming is made in the Middle East. Different programs are created to meet the needs of every member of the family, no matter their age, socio-economic status or level of spiritual development.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Tens of thousands coming to Christ! How do they grow? How does the church in the region meet this need? Pastors and Christian leaders are needed and we desire to help two training centers meet the need. One is Bethlehem Bible College (BBC). Located just down the street from Rachel's Tomb, this College is equipping Palestinian believers as church planters, children's and youth workers, media specialists, and so much more. Since unemployment is high, most students cannot come close to being able to afford tuition, room and board. The school seeks to subsidize each student in need, but that takes over \$3000 per student. We want to help meet that need.

While BBC is equipping men and women in Palestine, far to the west is the European Training Center (ETC). The ETC was introduced to the Calvary family last spring by Victor Hashway, who spoke of the need to provide training for Pastors and leaders. Their vision is to see the Kingdom of God expanded among Muslim peoples through the multiplication of Jesus-focused communities. The ETC will equip theologically, and focus on character development. They also will train in the vocational areas of business, technology, media, and so much more as they seek to impact those leaders who will equip others. We desire to help with operating expenses.

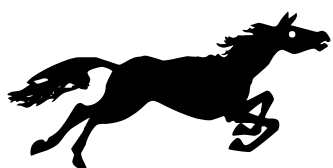
HOW YOU CAN HELP

This is a great year to get involved by praying for and getting connected with what God is doing throughout the nations. Will you help swing the door wide open so that more can hear the good news of Jesus and follow Him? We would love to see \$250,000 collected to help these ministries fulfill the vision God has given them in a significant way. Watch your mail for a letter containing an ODV giving envelope that can be returned by mail or in the offering plate on Sundays. You can also give to Calvary's ODV project all year long, simply by marking a regular giving envelope with ODV.

how things work

how do you get to be in the james gang?

HOWDY KIDS! Get ready to join our memorization program “James Gang” this year in Kingdom Kids! Memorize with fun songs designed to aid memorization, complete family serving opportunities to “put your faith in action,” and join our James Gang on the “Wall of Fame” in our Elementary Hallway at the end of the year!



As a Children's Ministry, we have decided to dig deep in memorization, and commit our school-year memorization efforts to memorizing through an entire book of the Bible – James – one chapter a year. This links memorization to the context it was written in, goes deep instead of broad, and builds upon concepts and themes presented in succession each new chapter. This year is James chapter 3, a perfect place to join us!

Why the book of James?

Because James addresses our cultural fix on information, and instead calls for a high level of responsibility to act on what we know and memorize. “Faith without deeds is dead.” (James 2:26) James is a short book, with an average of 22 verses each year. . . not bad! That gives ample time to dig deep, memorize and take action!

What tools do you provide to accomplish this?

Parent packets are available for every family at the Elementary Check-in Desk with the following tools to aid in memorization:

- Songs of the current chapter of James that year will be free for download (CDs are available for small donation) set to various styles of music to enhance memorization
- Introduction to the book of James and dictionary of difficult words will help explain hard-to-understand words and concepts.
- A list of serving opportunities will be available for families to “put their faith into action.”
- End of the year celebration to recognize children who memorized that year's chapter and completed five of the listed service projects. Celebration will include initiation into the “James Gang” by way of group picture printed on certificates and a large poster hung in our Elementary hallway.

As a ministry, when do you review these verses with children?

Our Wednesday night programming (“WOW”) breaks down the memorization according to songs provided, and sings them at large group introduction each week. WOW also provides incentives to keep kids motivated. Our Children's Choir LUMIN8 learns and professionally records the James memorization songs at the end of the year, and performs a “Rote Radio” concert in the spring.



CALVARY CHURCH FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Come to Christmas



December 2-4, 9-11 | 3:00 & 7:00pm | Tickets: \$7 | startickets.com

The Bagman and the King

Festival of Lights 2011 is a great opportunity to introduce your friends to the hope of Christ. Begin praying now about who you might bring.

In this year's production, *The Bagman and the King*, the townspeople of Brampton are eagerly awaiting the arrival of the King. While they are busy preparing, they encounter an unknown bagman (a man without a home) who is carrying a special surprise in his bag. As the surprise is unveiled, the whole town discovers that God's gift of love brings both the royal and the rugged together at the manger.

This year's performance runs December 2-4 and 9-11. Tickets (\$6 and \$7) went on sale online at startickets.com, October 24. Tickets will also be on sale in the Calvary Café on Sunday, November 20.

Gather your friends and *Come to Christmas* at Festival of Lights this year.

HOW ARE YOU PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS?

ADVENT is traditionally a time of preparation for Christmas. Being ready for Christmas should mean that our thoughts are focused not just on letters, cards and presents, but on repentance, humbling and interior "housecleaning."

John the Baptist warned his hearers to prepare a way for the Lord - to make a clear and level pathway. This involves removing any boulders that stand in the way, and filling in the potholes. The boulders are the things we have done that we should not have done; the potholes are the things we have failed to do which we obviously should have done.

The more, as individuals, family or congregation, we are focused in this way, the less we will be overwhelmed by the commercialization of Christmas. We wait in the anticipation of the coming of the Lord. Christ has come; Christ has died and is risen; Christ will come again.

We invite you this Advent season to wait on God once again, remembering the time of the coming of our Savior so long ago, and perhaps even during this time we might learn to wait for things with a different attitude. May we wait with hope.

*Adapted from Celtic Daily Prayer
from The Northumbria Community*

ADVENT

BEGINS NOVEMBER 27



thanks for giving

by Ron Haas, *Elder*

II Corinthians 9:11-15

2010-2011
Board
Members

deliver. Without sales, everything in the system comes to a screeching halt.

Generous giving produces the same kind of chain reaction. The sales illustration doesn't exactly fit because God can make anything happen with or without our involvement. But he has chosen to use generous giving as his method for accomplishing his purposes. Giving funds the missionaries who evangelize, the pastors who shepherd, the Christian school teachers and professors who train, and the counselors and outreach workers who care. Without giving, everything in the church comes to a screeching halt.

The Corinthian believers had promised a gift to help the Jerusalem church, but it had taken a year for them to respond. Paul sent Titus to motivate them to follow through with their commitment and encouraged them with four blessings of generosity.

1. Generous Giving Meets Needs (v. 12)

Practically speaking, giving puts your money to work. Missionaries use support to lease meeting space, order training materials, and travel to church plants. Bible translators purchase computers and software to speed up the tedious work of converting the Word into the heart languages of unreached people. Pastors and youth pastors receive salaries so they can focus their full-time efforts on feeding the flock. Generous giving funds people, programs, and property to advance the Gospel.

2. Generous Giving Produces Thankfulness (vs. 11, 12)

Generosity and worship go hand in hand. When God answers someone who has been fervently praying for a need, their

first reaction is overflowing thanks to God for his provision! Philanthropists give to feel good and receive man's recognition, but stewards want God to receive all the glory for their gift. After all, God is the one who gives us the resources to give back to him. Have you ever thought that your generosity causes missionaries, pastors, teachers, and Christian workers to break out in praise? The world views giving only on a horizontal level, but Christians view generosity as a heavenly exchange.

3. Generous Giving Proves Genuine Faith (v. 13)

Giving proves that your faith is real. Paul refers to generous giving as "the service by which you have proved yourselves" (v. 13). James warns about dead faith that consists of only warm, fuzzy words, but no actions (James 2:14-18). Generous giving is a tangible way to move your theology from your head, to your heart, to your hands. Good intentions aren't enough, God requires obedience. Does your checkbook reflect your faith?

4. Generous Giving Prompts Prayer (v. 14)

"And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you" (v. 14). Giving is not an impersonal transaction. One of the hardest tasks for missionaries seems to be raising financial support. They fear that asking for a gift will drive a wedge between friends, but generous giving actual strengthens the relationships between givers and receivers. We pray for our missionaries, but Paul reminds us that they will pray for you.

Jesus is the ultimate example of a generous giver. He taught, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35), but he also demonstrated generosity when he willingly offered himself as a sacrifice for our sins. Paul could only respond to Christ's generosity with, "Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!" (2 Corinthians 9:15). Something great happens when we follow Christ's example and give generously.

If you want to study more about generous giving visit *generousyou.com*.

Elders

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Deacons

Ed Avink

Robert Bass

Gerrit Bos

Steve Doren

Robert Johnston

Chad Kerr

Tom Miller

David Radde

Jeff Rogers

Howard Timmer

Dan Wiersma

Todd Wilde

If you have any questions or comments you would like to share with an elder, please see the list above.

meet me at the

marketplace

WOMEN'S MINISTRY EVENT

NOVEMBER 10

6:00 — 9:00PM

TICKETS: \$8

CALVARY CHURCH
FELLOWSHIP HALL

Bring your girlfriends and join us for hors d'oeuvres, hot beverages and a one-stop marketplace—where you can purchase everything from baskets to carved ornaments, from jewelry to soaps, from artwork to bags. . .



But the best part of the evening might just be the moment when we all slow down for a reflection from Jill Herweyer about how she uncovered what

she really needed in order to feel God's amazing blessings in the midst of life's chaos.

Note: While some vendors may accept credit cards, cash and checks are preferred. All vendors are uniquely connected to the Calvary community inside our walls and throughout the world.

TICKETS ARE REQUIRED IN
ADVANCE AND ARE AVAILABLE
SUNDAYS (OCT. 30-NOV. 6)
OUTSIDE THE CALVARY CAFÉ .

Sunday Morning Worship Service

8:10am, 9:40am, 11:15am | Sanctuary

Sunday Evening Worship Service

6:00pm | Chapel

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm

Sunday: 7:30am-12:30pm

Note: The church office will be closed November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

QUICK CONNECT

administrative staff information
in alpha order by ministry

Benevolence

Lynnell Bok
lbok@calvarygr.org
ext. 3510

Pastoral Care

Regina Scovill
rscovill@calvarygr.org
ext. 3672

Calvary Community

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Senior Adults

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Children

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Men

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ext. 3618

Worship

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ext. 5155

Missions

Chris DeHaan
missions@calvarygr.org
ext. 5022

Young Adults

Mason D. Sherrill
msherrill@calvarygr.org
ext. 5036

Church Phone Number: (616) 956-9377

CHILDREN

Carla | childrensministry@calvarygr.org | ext. 5067

Family Service Sunday

November 27

Please note that November 27 is a family service Sunday. Nursery is available; children preschool age and older are encouraged to attend the service with their family (activity boxes are available at the desk near Entrance N). If needed, room 254 is open for children ages three through five.

WOW

Wednesdays | 6:30-7:45pm | Entrance K

It is not too late to join WOW Wednesdays. This year in WOW kids will compile a James Journal scrapbook from weekly lessons learned in James chapter 3. They will also be able to identify 30 major events in Jesus life when he modeled actions described in James 3 and place them on a timeline. In addition, children will continue memorization of James chapter 3 (through song).

LUMIN8 Christmas Musical

December 18 | 6:00pm

Make plans now to attend this year's Lumin8 Children's Choir Christmas musical, *Camel Lot*. Through this musical, children will learn the clear, simple message of Jesus the Savior, sent to our world to redeem sinful humanity. There's simply not a better place to spend Christmas than here in -- Camel Lot!

5TH-8TH GRADE

calvarystudents@calvarygr.org | ext. 5181

The Main Event

Sunday Mornings | 9:40am

5th/6th: Room 109 | 7th/8th: Room 108

On Sunday morning, we spend time hanging out, worshiping, and finding creative ways to learn more about God's Word as a community of middle school students. Our theme this year is *Cafeteria: never dine alone*. It's our desire to emphasize to students why it's important to be with other Christians as we grow closer to God.

5TH/6TH GRADE

calvarystudents@calvarygr.org | ext. 5181

Refuge

Wednesdays | 6:30-8:00pm | Room 109

The school week can be tough. Homework, activities and the pressures of school make your life busy. That's why we offer refuge every Wednesday night. It's a great time of fun and encouragement where we play games and learn about God with a small group of Christian friends. You can join Refuge any time in the school year, just show up!

P.A.C. Attack*

November 13 | 12:30- 2:30pm | Gym | Cost: \$3

P.A.C. Attack is our party after church on Sunday afternoons. We play dodgeball, eat pizza and play more dodgeball. P.A.C. Attacks are a great way to make new friends. If dodgeball's not your thing, you can find some friends and watch a movie with us, too.

*Parent-signed year-long release form needed on file to participate.

7TH/8TH GRADE

calvarystudents@calvarygr.org | ext. 5181

Oasis

Room 108 | 6:30-8:00pm

Oasis is our Wednesday night small group program. Want to go deeper asking specific questions

about topics that concern you? Want to make some close friends? Want to get to know some of our fun, caring leaders on a more personal level? Whatever your reason in coming, Oasis is an awesome place for 7th and 8th grade students! We'll play games, worship, hear a brief talk, and break up into our groups. You can join Oasis any time in the school year, just show up!

AREA ONE! Fall Retreat*

November 12 at 5:30pm - November 13 at 5:30pm
Grace Adventures | Meet at Entrance D

Cost: \$65 (\$55 if paid in full by October 31)

\$25 non-refundable deposit due at registration

The first thing I notice in someone's house is that there are areas designed for different parts of their life. We have kitchens for making food, dining rooms for eating in, family rooms for hanging out together and bedrooms for sleeping. During our fall retreat we'll play some awesome games (including mega-box wars), laugh together, worship together, eat some camp food together, and examine different areas of our lives and how God can be honored in each ONE. The fall retreat is a great opportunity to make new friends and learn more about this awesome God and how we can bring him glory in all of our "areas."

HIGH SCHOOL

calvarystudents@calvarygr.org | ext. 5181

UNITED

Sundays | 6:00-8:30pm | Room 108

If you are in high school, you belong with us at UNITED. Come out for a night of worship through singing, learn from God's word, interact with friends and leaders in small groups, play fun games and watch crazy videos...anything could happen. This fall we're in our series called "The Vandalized Masterpiece," which will take us through the very beginning of it all... We will find out how our world got to be the way it is today, and how God's once perfect masterpiece became ruined.

UNITED @ Homes

November 6 | 6:00-8:30pm

The first Sunday of every month United meets in homes. Contact your small group leader or the Student Ministries Office for your grade's location.

Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 23 | 7:00pm | Sanctuary



Please join us as we share testimonies of the goodness of our God. Pumpkin pie and coffee will be served in the Gym following the service.

iServe

November 12 | 1:00-4:30pm | Entrance J

HSM is holding their annual food drive to collect food for the Yellow House pantry. After the event we'll meet back at church for a rousing game of blow dart wars.

YOUNG ADULTS

a ministry for young adults 18-34

Mason | msherrill@calvarygr.org | ext. 5036

Love Feast

November 20 | 6:30pm | Fellowship Hall

It's that time of year where we reflect on God's blessings and share His bounty of soul warming food and fellowship. Come be encouraged as you hear how God has been at work in the lives of other young adults. We'll share a wonderful fall feast, dessert and entertainment; then we'll pause to listen to one another share some of the blessings we have experienced from God over the last year. Sign up in College Ministry, Merge, or Foundations to bring your favorite side dish to pass.

COLLEGE

a community for young adults 18-22

Natalie | nkompik@calvarygr.org | ext. 5165

College Ministry Lunch

Sundays | 12:30pm | Room 121

Are you looking for a way to connect with other college students who attend Calvary on Sundays? You are invited to join the College Ministry for a free lunch every Sunday after the third service. This is a great way to fellowship with other students and to learn about additional ways to get involved at Calvary Church. For more information, contact Natalie Kompik.

College Life

Thursdays | 7:00pm | Room 108

Are you interested in joining a diverse community of fellow college-aged young adults? Join us as we meet together as a community for worship, small groups, and teaching on Thursdays. This is a great opportunity to build relationships with college students from the Grand Rapids area and to grow in our faith together. For more information contact Natalie Kompik.

College Discipleship: On Campus Groups

These community groups meet on-campus once a week during lunch at various college campuses. Gather with fellow believers for an informal time of sharing and catching-up about what is happening in our lives. Contact Carl Crispin ([ccrispin@calvarygr.org](mailto:crcrispin@calvarygr.org)).

MERGE

a community for single young adults ages 22-34

Sue | sschroeder@calvarygr.org | ext. 5093

Grounded - Sunday Night with Merge

November 6 | 7:00-9:00pm | Icons Coffee (2090

Celebration Drive across from Celebration Cinema)

Before you begin another week, get grounded with Merge on Sunday Nights. Enjoy encouraging fellowship as we play games and share coffee together. We'll also reflect on a spiritual topic and discuss together how we can set a firm foundation for our faith as we head out into the world.

FOUNDATIONS

a community for young couples ages 22-32

JP | jgaylord@calvarygr.org | ext. 5541

Sundays | 11:15am | Room 125

Join us this fall for our series Life 101 – why doctrine actually matters and how it influences our lives. Contact JP Gaylord for more information.

CALVARY COMMUNITY

Brenda | bneher@calvarygr.org | ext. 5650

Monday Night Bible Study

Monday | 7:00-8:35pm | Chapel | Teachers: Helen Stewart and Ed Kaleefey

Monday Night Bible Study is a place where men and women come together for fellowship, prayer and studying God's Word. The study for the fall semester is *Nehemiah: A Man with Heart*, written by Nancy Samra. Nehemiah's life is rich in lessons for us today. Contact Dave Thrasher at 243-6603 (men) or Carol Spencer at 942-4743 (women) if you have any questions. Join anytime.

Koinonia - Adult Sunday Class

Sundays | 9:40am | Room 207

Koinonia (Koy-no-nee'-ah) is a smaller community of people within Calvary's walls who journey through life together. Relationships are built through our fellowship time and study of God's Word. Within the teachings of this year we will unpack the meaning behind the Greek word Koinonia as well as do biblical character studies in a discussion based format in search of finding application to our lives today. We welcome you to come and experience our class and allow God to bless you through living life alongside other believers.

Membership Class

Saturday, November 12 from 9:00am-2:30pm

We believe membership in the local church is important. Membership means commitment to learn, to be in community and to contribute – giving back to God what He so richly gives to us. Register online or contact Brenda (membership@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5650 by November 7. Pre-registration is required. Lunch is provided. Sorry, no childcare.

COMPASSION MINISTRIES

Lou | ldegraaf@calvarygr.org | ext. 3618

Good Sense Class

November 2-December 14 | 6:30-8:00pm

Yellow House Conference Room

This six-week class will provide you with the principles, practical steps, and individual assistance to develop a Spending Plan that enables you to control your money rather than having your money control you. Contact Lou to register.

Surviving the Holidays

November 12 | 10:00am-12:00pm | Room 140

Cost: \$10

If you are separated or divorced, the holidays can be a very stressful time. Featuring video instruction and group discussion, this encouraging seminar will help you deal with the intense pain of separation and divorce and discover new ways to enjoy the holidays again. A complimentary lunch will be offered following the class. For more information or to register, contact Lou.

DivorceCare for Kids (DC4K): Your children can join us for a time of encouragement and discover

how to enjoy the holidays again. We will provide activities for school age children and childcare for preschoolers.

FAMILY LIFE

Regina | rscovill@calvarygr.org | ext. 3672

Honeymooner's Class

Sundays | 9:40am | Room 112

Come discover God's blueprint for marriage, learn important skills to help strengthen your relationship, and have fun learning and growing together. Our Honeymooner's Class will be team taught by seven married couples who know the challenges and joys of building a solid marriage relationship and who long to encourage you as you begin this journey.

This class is for couples in their first year of marriage. For more information, contact Lorie Dewey (ldewey@calvarygr.org) at ext 3149.

MEN

Lou | men@calvarygr.org | ext. 3618

Men's Breakfast

November 12 | 8:00am | Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$5 (payable at the door)

Join us as Clare DeGraaf shares from his new book, *The 10 Second Rule*. Clare DeGraaf is a follower of Jesus, businessman, elder, Bible teacher, and for over 25 years a full-time volunteer spiritual mentor of men. A successful businessman and Christian all his life, at age 31 he found himself at a spiritual crossroads – a crisis of faith triggered by cancer. Surrendering himself to Christ, he sold his manufacturing company in 1984, at age 35, to devote the balance of his life serving the King and his kingdom. Clare and his wife, Susan, live in Grand Rapids, Michigan and are the parents of six children and proud grandparents of thirteen.

PASTORAL CARE

Regina | rscovill@calvarygr.org | ext. 3672

Chera Harvest Brunch

November 19 | 9:30am | Fellowship Hall

Chera is a support group designed to reach out with the comfort found in Jesus Christ to those who have lost spouses. Please join us for a special time of fellowship with the church elders. John-Thomas Richards, Lead Pastor of New City



Church, will be our guest speaker. R.S.V.P. to Mar-
ian Mason at 554-9262 if you plan to attend.

Confident Caregivers

November 21 | 11:30am -1:00pm | Room 123
Confident Caregivers of West Michigan is a
monthly support group for sharing needs, ques-
tions, answers and encouragement. Please join
us this month as Holland Home presents on the
topic of "coping with grief while celebrating the
holidays." R.S.V.P. by November 17 to Regina.

Grief: Coping With the Holidays

Remembering, Memorializing and Hoping

November 5 | 9:00-11:30am | Fellowship Hall
If you have experienced the loss of a loved one,
the upcoming holiday season may seem too dif-
ficult to face...in fact, you may be anxiously
awaiting the passing of the season. We invite
you to join Spectrum Health Palliative Care for
"Remembering, Memorializing and Hoping." This
workshop is free, continental breakfast provided.
Contact Regina Scovill (rscoவில்@calvarygr.org) if
you plan to attend.

Mental Illness Support Group

November 22 | 7:00pm | Room 114
On a national scale, an estimated 4.5 million
Americans have a severe mental illness. Get-
ting these individuals into a continuous mode of
treatment is a challenge facing many families.
This group is designed to offer families the help,
encouragement and support they need. Contact
John or Betty Walker at 956-6141.

PRAYER GROUPS

Intercessors Prayer Group

Wednesdays | 6:45pm | Room 212
Open to anyone who is interested in praying for
Calvary Church, its pastors, its staff, its volun-
teers, its congregation and its programming.
For details, or to submit prayer requests, contact
prayer@calvarygr.org.

Pastor Jim Samra's Prayer Team

People on this team agree to pray daily for the
Samras and for the church. Jim sends out weekly
prayer requests to the team as well as requests
throughout the week when he needs immediate
help. Contact Ruth Gudbrandson (rgudbrandson@calvarygr.org)
at ext. 5013.



Coping with the Holidays

Remembering, Memorializing and Hoping

Saturday, November 5, 9:00-11:30am
Fellowship Hall

Featuring LuAnn Arnsen, LMSW, CBIS a clinical social worker;
Lori LaGrone, MDIV, Chaplain and Community Relations
Representative; and Rachel VanBuskirk, BSW, a Clinical Social Worker,
all with with Spectrum Health Hospice and Palliative Care.

Contact Regina Scovill (rscoவில்@calvarygr.org) at 956-9377,
ext. 3672 if you plan to attend.

Pastors' Prayer Partners

You will receive weekly updates from the Pastoral
Staff via email or postal mail. Your obligation
is to pray with a team of prayer warriors during
one service a month, and pray in your own home
regularly for their requests. Contact Arlene
Timmer (hrtakt@iserv.net) at 365-0728.

Prayer & Fasting for the Unemployed

Thursdays | 12:00-1:00pm | Chapel
Please join us every third Thursday for a time of
prayer and fasting for the unemployed.

Prayer for Prodigals

First Sunday of the Month | 8:10am | Room 207
Almost all of us know someone who accepted the
Lord somewhere in the past and now that person
has slipped away from God and is living for self.
This prayer group unites our hearts as one to pray
our loved ones back to the Savior.

Prayer for Worship Services

Sundays | 7:45-8:05am (in Jim Samra's office),
9:15-9:35am, 10:50-11:10am (in Room 105)
You are invited to join others meeting on Sundays
before each service to pray specifically that
God would bless our morning services. All are
encouraged to pick a time and come.

Pray for Festival of Lights

If you would like to pray for this year's Festival of
Lights production, a prayer calendar is available
at the Sanctuary Information Center.

Third Monday Missionary Prayer

Bring your lunch and pray for our missionaries
serving around the world on the third Monday
of each month at 11:30pm in room 207.

SPECIAL NEEDS

Elleen | efitzgerald@calvarygr.org | ext. 5623

Go-Getters (Adults with Special Needs)

Sundays | 11:15am | Chapel
The Go-Getter class is growing in size as well
as knowledge of God's Word. Their studies this
fall will include the book of John and additional
biblical characters. The students continue to
care for and pray for others with such sincerity
and love. Mentors are needed to bring them
through our booklet "Understanding Faith in
Jesus" and the process that follows.

Explorers (Children with Special Needs)

Sundays | 11:15am | Room 114
Explorers Sunday morning class is an interac-
tive, sensory-based learning excursion through
God's Word! We are exploring God's Word to
learn and grow in Him through our own abili-
ties. As we continue on in our adventure, we are
equipping our students to learn in an environ-
ment that best suits their needs as followers of
Christ. Some of our students start their journeys
with Explorers with the ultimate goal of inclu-
sion within Calvary's community.

Seekers (Youth with Special Needs)

Sundays | 11:15am | Room 112
In Seekers, we are equipping ourselves with
the armor of God! We are discovering how to

“wear” God’s armor every day by actively studying His Word. Through the use of different fine motor skills and stimulating activities, Seekers are equipping themselves with important values, engaging in them, and demonstrating them to others.

SENIOR ADULTS

Regina | rscovill@calvarygr.org | ext. 3672

Monday Monthly Luncheon

November 7 | 10:20am | Fellowship Hall

Cost: \$7

Joining us this month is Judy Schreur, one of Calvary’s favorite humorists. Make reservations with Howard & Arlene Timmer at 365-0728, Virginia Claybrook at 940-1807, or Terry & Linda Markham at 247-8619 by November 2.

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Wednesday | 9:30am | Chapel

Join us as Tom Couch continues his series from the book of Genesis 11 “Learning to Live by Faith” - studies in the life of Abraham. Refreshments are served from 9:30-9:50am, and the study begins promptly at 10:00am.

Hymn Sing

November 20 | 7:30pm | Chapel

Come lift your voices as we rejoice together with the timeless hymns you know and love. Our hymn sing will begin at 7:30 pm, following the evening service. Maury Lehmann will lead us in singing with special guest soloist Sandy Nyenhuis.

WOMEN

Elaine | emeredith@calvarygr.org | ext. 5186

Women’s Volleyball

Mondays | 6:00-8:00pm | Gym

Women over the age of 16 are invited to join us for recreational volleyball on Monday nights. Get out of the house, get some exercise and make some new friends. A short devotional follows playing time. No fee. No childcare available. Gym shoes are required along with an injury release waiver. Contact Pat Engels (engelspa@aol.com) for more information at 457-3813.

Women’s Exercise Class - Now on Mondays

Mondays | 9:30-11:00am | Gym

Join us for a variety of aerobics, Tae Bo, Pilates, stretching, weight lifting and games all taught

by a Certified Fitness Instructor. Limited childcare is available on a first come basis – call Elaine to reserve a spot. For more information contact Angela Crompton at 682-1524. Injury waiver is required.

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Budget Counselors Needed

If you have been praying for a special place to serve at Calvary, being a much needed budget counselor could be the perfect place for you to make a difference in someone’s life. We are in need of more budget counselors, especially women. If you are interested or would like more information, contact Lou DeGraaf (ldegraaf@calvarygr.org) at ext. 3618.

Children’s Ministry

Fall is here and it’s not too late to join this exciting team in changing children’s lives for eternity! There are opportunities to serve Sunday mornings, WOW, LUMIN8 on Wednesday evenings in every area of giftedness - in the classroom, or behind the scenes. Contact childrensministry@calvarygr.org at ext. 5053.

ICS

If you know what those three letters mean we would like to share information with you about Calvary’s Emergency Response Plan. Contact Ken Meines (kmeines@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5125 for more details.

Festival of Lights - Hair Dressers Needed

If you are interested in helping with hair for the Festival of Lights cast, contact Christy VanAndel (cvanandel@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5615.

First Impressions Team Members Needed

We have six teams (Welcome, Greeting, Parking Lot, Connection Point, Information Center and Café Greeting) that you can choose to be part of this vital fun ministry. Contact Sharon Kaiser (skaiser@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5077 or Judie Fiels-tra (jfielstra@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5095 to sign up or to learn more.

Serve With Your Free Time

Do you have an hour or two once a week between 7:00am and 7:00pm? Are you looking to plug in and use your skills for Kingdom work? The Facili-

ties Team is looking for volunteer team members that can do simple general tasks, like putting offering envelopes in the pews, to those with “handyman” skills. If you would like more information or want to just learn what we have available that would fit your needs, contact Earl Jenkins (ejenkins@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5117.

Shut-In Ministry

If you have a heart of mercy for those who are lonely and compassion for those who are suffering, please prayerfully consider joining the Shut-In Ministry Team. Contact Rich Dyer (richguy101@comcast.net).

Snow Removal

Volunteers are needed to help with snow removal this winter. Contact Kevin Troupe (ktroupe@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5112 if to serve.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Lynnell | lbok@calvarygr.org | ext. 3510

Food Pantry

This month we’re looking for the following items:

- Stuffing
- Dinner rolls and biscuits
- Gravy
- Canned pie filling
- Potatoes -fresh, boxed or sweet
- Canned or fresh vegetables
- Canned pumpkin
- Cranberries – fresh or canned
- Pie crust
- Assorted baking ingredients
- Whipped topping

Clothes Closet

With winter approaching, the Clothes Closet needs the following items: boots for men, women and children; coats, snow pants, snowsuits, hats, gloves and scarves; plus warm clothing. All items donated are tax exempt.

Holiday Food Baskets

Be a Christmas blessing by providing a food basket for a Calvary family. Our goal is to provide 80 baskets with special holiday treats for families using the Calvary Food Pantry this year. Food Baskets can be dropped off at the Yellow House, Monday, December 5-Friday, December 16, 8:30am-5:00pm,. Baskets will be delivered on Wednesday, December 21.

november calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
			WFD Menu: Meatloaf 5:15pm Explore Calvary 6:30pm Good Sense Class Begins			9:00am Coping with the Holidays
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
2:00am Daylight Savings Time Ends 8:10am Prodigal Prayer Group Operation Christmas Child Box Collection Begins 6:00pm UNITED@Homes 7:00pm Merge: Grounded	10:30am Seniors Luncheon		WFD Menu: Chicken Chop Suey 5:15pm Explore Calvary	6:00pm Meet Me at the Marketplace		7th/8th AREA ONE Fall Retreat 9:00am Membership Class 10:00am Surviving the Holidays 1:00pm iServe
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church Advent Guides Available 12:30pm 5th/6th P.A.C. Attack			WFD Menu: Thanksgiving Dinner	12:00pm Prayer and Fasting for the Unemployed		9:30am Chera Brunch
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
One Heart for the City Begins FOL Tickets on Sale in the Calvary Café 6:30pm Young Adult Love Feast 7:30pm Hymn Sing	11:30am Confident Caregivers Third Monday Missionary Prayer	7:00pm Mental Illness Family Support Group	No Wednesday Night Programming 7:00pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	Church Office Closed	
27	28	29	30			
Advent Begins Family Service			WFD Menu: BBQ Pork			

FOR ALL RECURRING WEEKLY EVENTS, PLEASE REFER TO THE WEB CALENDAR AT CALVARYGR.ORG OR THE BACK OF THE SUNDAY BULLETIN.

Welcome

TO CALVARY CHURCH

Welcome to Calvary Church! We know there are many churches you could have chosen to attend and we are glad you chose to be here. We believe that you are not here by accident, that God has brought you to this place for a specific purpose and we look forward to assisting you in any way that we can. We also believe that everyone who attends Calvary needs to be in community. It is in community that people experience the true blessings of life in Christ and life with one another. Please take time to find the community that is right for you. Visit the Connection Point on Sunday mornings or call me at 956-9377. My team and I would love to help you get connected.



Lee Content
Pastoral Staff, Calvary Community

NEED MORE INFO?

Go to the Connection Point located through the Sanctuary doors on the right as you exit (in the Chapel wing) or stop at the Information Center at the back of the Sanctuary.

Media Center: For past sermons or a series on CD, the Media Center is located through the Sanctuary doors on the left as you exit (in the Chapel wing).

Children's Activity Boxes: Located inside the Sanctuary doors by the Children's wing.

Explore Calvary

This staff-led, four-week class is for people to learn more about Calvary, take a tour of the building and find out what your next steps in connecting may look like. Contact Sharon Kaiser (skaiser@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5077.

Pastoral Need

If you have a need and would like to speak to a pastor, please call the main church number, 956-9377 or email pastoralcare@calvarygr.org. A pastor is always available.

SUNDAYS AT CALVARY

Connection Point

Our Connection Point is a place where you can receive a warm welcome, whether this is your first time at Calvary or your sixteenth. The Connection Point is your place for information on connecting at Calvary Church. It is located in the Chapel wing of the building, on your right as you exit the Sanctuary, in room 215a.

Calvary Café

9:00am-11:15am in the Gym

The Calvary Café is designed to give you the opportunity to mingle with other attendees between services. Stop in for a cup of coffee and a donut. From discussing the morning's sermon to catching up on your community group leader's recent vacation, the Calvary Café is a great place to gather for conversation.

Adult Sunday Classes

Find a class that's perfect for you. There are classes for adults of all ages, stages and interests, from singles to parents to senior adults. For exact location and class descriptions, pick up a copy of the Adult Sunday Classes brochure at the Information Center or at calvarygr.org.

Special Needs

Adult (Go-Getters): 11:15am

*Youth (Seekers): 11:15am

*Children (Explorers): 11:15am

Chapel
Room 112
Room 114

**Pre-registration recommended*

Children's Ministries

Young Fives - Fourth Grade: 9:40am and 11:15am

Visit the check-in desk at Entrance K on the lower level to register.

Nursery Care: 8:10am, 9:40am and 11:15am

For infants birth through preschool. Visit the check-in desk at Entrance M on the upper level to register.

Student Ministries

Middle School (MSM): 9:40am

5th & 6th Main Event (Studying Genesis)

7th & 8th Main Event (Studying Genesis)

High School (United): 6:00pm (Studying Genesis)

Room 109
Room 108
Room 108

Young Adults

Merge (Singles 22-34): 11:15am

Foundations (Young Couples 22-32): 11:15am

College Lunch (Young Adults 18-22): 12:45pm

Room 137
Room 125
Room 121

life {together}

experiencing community at Calvary Church

Community is a place where you belong; a place where you develop relationships with other believers and do life together.

When you experience true community, you have close friends who meet together, pray together, grow together in God's Word, and care for one another. In community you will be loved; you will be valued; you will be transformed more into Christ's image. If you realize it is time to engage with people in a new way and want to be a part of a community group, visit the Connection Point on Sunday mornings or sign up at calvarygr.org.