

# TODAY at Calvary Church



## ADVENT

On this second Sunday of Advent we light the **peace** candle. For many this season of merriment highlights the loss and longing in their life. The festivities only heighten insecurities and busy schedules. We lament the chaos and angst we experience and wonder, "How long Lord must we continue in this way?" But we don't lament as those without hope or promise, for we know Christ will one day return. We take our aches to Him and await the Lord's coming justice and glory. May the Holy Spirit be a force of peace in your life, bringing comfort as you wait.

## PRAYER

**Pre-Service Prayer | 8:30-8:50am | Room 255:** Pray for our worship services with the morning's teaching pastor.

**Boiler Room | 8:50-11:50am:** Visit room 222 behind the Sanctuary to pray over every aspect of the worship service as the Holy Spirit leads, including staff-initiated requests.

## LISTENING TO TODAY'S MESSAGE

**Language Interpretation:** During the 9:00 service, the sermon is interpreted into Mandarin. At 10:45, the worship service is interpreted into both Korean and Arabic. Pick up a receiver at the Welcome Center (across from the main Sanctuary entrance).

**Hearing Assistance:** If you need hearing assistance, listening devices are available at the Welcome Center in the Crosswalk.

## TAKING TODAY'S MESSAGE BEYOND SUNDAY

We send out a reflection email each Tuesday to help you engage with today's message all week long. If you're looking for practical ways that you can apply today's sermon in your life, visit [mycalvarygr.org](http://mycalvarygr.org), click on subscriptions and sign up for the **Reflect Weekly Email**.

# congregational care

## BEREAVED

We extend our sympathy to Rick and Dianne Koprowski, Paul and Julie Koprowski, David, Addison and Austin Koprowski at the homegoing of their sister, aunt and great aunt, Deborah Bliss, on November 23; to Sherri Bishop, Ben and Stephanie Hodgson, Cody, Ethan, Allie, and Lillyanna Hodgson, at the homegoing of their brother, father, and grandfather, Terry Hodgson, on November 25; to Andy and Kathleen Girwarnauth at the homegoing of Kathleen's father, Glenn Wittenbach, on November 26; to Dale and Jane DeKorne at the homegoing of Dale's mother, Betsy, on November 29; and also to Grace Boersma, and Jerry and Kris Dykstra at the homegoing of their husband and father, Casey Boersma, on December 2.

like to be added to the prayer list or receive a visit from a Calvary staff member, please call us at 956-9377.

## THANK YOU

Thank you so much for sending the beautiful floral arrangement for Yvonne's service. Your kindness and thoughtfulness meant so much to us.  
John Myers & Family

The deacons would like to thank those who contributed to our Benevolent offering last Sunday, December 1. We collected \$29,421.72.

## TRANSFORMED BIBLE STUDY

**Begins February 20 | 7:00-9:00pm  
Room 109 (Entrance E)**

A 7-week Bible Study designed to empower and equip women 18+ to walk free from eating and body image issues. Each week helps identify underlying spiritual issues keeping you stuck, studies what scripture says about them using inductive study techniques and teaches a tool from the spiritual disciplines. \$15 for materials. Register at [mycalvarygr.org](http://mycalvarygr.org). Questions? Contact Jen Lane ([mieatingdisordersalliance@gmail.com](mailto:mieatingdisordersalliance@gmail.com)).

## RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

### PRAYER LIST

**Butterworth:** Linda Hamlet, Bill Bartlett

**Blodgett:** Ed DeBruyn, Wendell Voetberg

If you have been hospitalized, or anticipate hospitalization, and would

## FOR THE RECORD • FISCAL YEAR 2019-2020

	Projected Offerings	Actual Offerings	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Last Week	\$ 146,053	\$ 114,724	(\$ 31,329)
Fiscal YTD Sept. 1 - Dec. 1	\$ 2,020,553	\$ 1,935,819	(\$ 84,734)
Jerusalem Project YTD		\$ 62,977	



DEC. 8, 2019  
9:00 & 10:45am

# A Godly Life



Calvary  
CHURCH

Hospitality  
Titus 1:8

Jim Samra  
Senior Pastor

*Welcome* Добро пожаловать!  
bienvenido  
i mirepritur BEM VINDA 환영 مرحبا بكم  
WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

# Weekly Focus

## Calvary Care

Calvary Care is a ministry of reaching out to care for and come alongside people. They offer marriage mentoring and wedding planning. Staff and volunteers work together to help with funerals and walking with you through your grief. They coordinate volunteers who help with home projects, visit shut-ins, facilitate our food pantry and clothes closet, and so much more. Take the opportunity today to meet a Calvary Care staff person, ask your questions, and find ways to support this ministry at the Connection Point after both services.

**Stop by the Connection Point to find out more about what is offered through Calvary Care.** Learn how you can receive support in a tough season, as well as how you can extend help to others. For more information during the week, contact Leslie Iverson (liverson@calvarygr.org) at ext. 3623.

**Collecting Hygiene Items:** Thank you for helping your church family through your donation of items such as: shampoo and conditioner, razors, shaving cream, liquid body soap, sanitary products, and body lotion. You may drop them off today at the Connection Point, or set your donation on the cart just inside Entrance J during the week. Thank you for offering Christ-like care through your benevolent offerings, donations, volunteering, and prayers.

## Missions MOVIE NIGHTS

**Friday, February 7: War Room (PG, 2 hours)**  
6:30-8:30pm | Gathering Place

Escape the winter blues and join us for an inspiring movie that explores the power of prayer. Register now at mycalvarygr.org. The "cost" of admission = a hygiene item donation for Calvary Care.



**THE JERUSALEM PROJECT** is a ministry of Calvary Church working to advance Christ's church through planting new churches, strengthening established churches and training church leaders. As we near the end of the calendar year, we are focusing on designated giving toward this project. In conjunction with this effort, we are sharing stories of how the Jerusalem Project has impacted ministry partners over the last year. Scan this QR code to watch!

Would you prayerfully consider how God might want you to be involved in giving to this work? It is your generosity that will help us continue to advance Christ's church in West Michigan and around the world in 2020. Text Jerusalem and the \$ amount of your gift to 294-0700; give at mycalvarygr.org; or use the envelope in the rack beside your seat to give via cash or check.

## CHRISTMAS at CALVARY

*Shepherds and Kings*  
Join Us This Coming Weekend!  
Friday at 7:00pm  
Saturday & Sunday at 3:00pm

**Purchase your tickets today, in the Gathering Place, following the service.** *Shepherds and Kings* is the story of a widow and a waitress who, in seasons of suffering and difficulty, give each other the gift of hope in unexpected ways. Set in Mattiello's, an Italian diner, the colorful characters and intertwined relationships of this story will take you from the depths to the heights through twists, turns, and surprises. Through this musical, our hope is that God reminds you that He came to know us in both our joy and our pain.

Tickets are \$5 and available at calvarygr.org/christmasatcalvary. You can also purchase them in the Worship Ministry Office (Entrance G) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00am-2:00pm. All seating is general admission.

## coming events & announcements

### Grace Beyond Celebration December 15 | 9:00 & 10:45am

Join us for a special celebration during our worship service next week. We will praise the Lord for His faithfulness as we make the final payment on this building project. We hope you will come to declare with us, "Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you" (Psalm 84:12).

### LUMIN8 Christmas Concert December 18 | 7:00pm | Sanctuary

Join the LUMIN8 Children's Choir for a fantastic night of celebrating the meaning of Christmas! Follow along as Ms. Carol and her students realize the true meaning of Christmas through random acts of kindness.

### Christmas Eve Services December 24 | 5:00, 7:30 & 10:00pm

Make Calvary's Christmas Eve service part of your holiday tradition. We will sing carols around the piano and read the Christmas story by candlelight. It's a simple service; a warm

and spirited prelude to your Christmas celebration.

**Scripture readers are needed** for our Christmas Eve services. If you're interested, contact Kristen (kwhite@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5013.

### Adult Bible Studies

As our Adult Bible Studies in Titus wrap up, we invite you to join us next semester for "Sustaining Grace: Living in Light of Jesus' Return Through 1 & 2 Thessalonians." These two letters written by Paul beautifully compliment all we are discovering in Titus. Monday Night, Tuesday morning, and Wednesday night Bible Studies begin the week of January 6. Email women@calvarygr.org (Note: Monday Night is open to men and women) to register. Cost is \$10.

### Job Openings

There are several open positions at Calvary, both part-time and full-time. Please go to calvarygr.org/jobs for more information.

## this week at calvary

- 1 Widows Ministry Christmas Brunch  
December 9 | 10:00am | Gathering Place**  
Jump in your sleigh and come enjoy some food, fellowship, and cookies. RSVP at mycalvarygr.org or contact Courtney Hoekwater (choekwater@calvarygr.org) at ext.5652.
- 2 Mental Illness Support Group  
December 12 | 6:30-8:00pm**  
If you are caring for a loved one with mental illness, this support group is designed to give you encouragement, training and fellowship with others walking a similar journey. Questions? Contact mentalhealth@calvarygr.org.
- 3 7th & 8th: Elf Movie Night  
December 13 | 6:00-8:00pm | Rm 208**  
Invite a friend and join us for a festive night filled with pancakes and Christmas cheer! Come dressed in your favorite Christmas pajamas for this cozy night. No need to register, just show up. Questions? Contact Ann Bagley (abagley@calvarygr.org).
- 4 24 Hours of Prayer  
Begins December 13 at 7:00pm**  
Join us for a church-wide prayer vigil focused on praying for the salvation of family, friends, and others in our life that we long to see know the Lord. Pray that Christmas at Calvary will point people to Jesus. Sign up at calvarygr.org/24hoursofprayer to spend a minimum of 30 minutes praying, preferably in the Prayer Garden. Prayer guides will be provided. Questions? Contact Cindy (cmarrell@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5997.

## CONNECTING BEYOND THE BULLETIN

We produce a quarterly *Calvary Life* magazine with ministry updates, and faith-enriching articles. **Pick up the Winter issue in the back of the Sanctuary today.** We also share regularly on Facebook (CalvaryChurchGR) and Instagram (calvarygr) and would love to connect with you there. Find an archive of sermons, our events calendar, a staff email directory and more at calvarygr.org.

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