

orphan sunday

Today is Orphan Sunday, a day in which Christians stand for the orphan. At Calvary, we recognize the need to care for orphans in our own community and worldwide, as well as the need to support families who have made this part of their personal journey. Our goals for Forever Hope—Calvary's Orphan Care Ministry—are to provide lasting hope for children waiting for a family, and to walk alongside families who are in the process of adoption or foster parenting.

Here are five ways you can respond:

1. **PRAY.** Tape a waiting child's picture to your dashboard and pray for them every time you're waiting in your car.
2. **ENCOURAGE A FOSTER CARE CASE WORKER** - This November we would like to purchase a gift for each of the 150 foster care workers in Kent County.
3. **ENCOURAGE THEM TO PRESS ON.** Become a mentor or tutor to a teenager in foster care.
4. **JOIN ONE OF THE FOREVER HOPE TEAMS** (prayer, encouragement, planning or wrap around care including respite care)
5. **BECOME AN ADOPTIVE OR FOSTER PARENT.** Welcoming a child into your home either temporarily by providing foster care or permanently adopting a child.

There is more information today in the Gathering Place (across from the Connection Point) and in Calvary Kids. We encourage you to stop by the table where someone will be happy to answer any questions you may have. For more information about Forever Hope, please contact Sheri Schmidt (sschmidt@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5524.

christmas giving

OPPORTUNITIES calvarygr.org/christmasgiving

This year we have partnered with two local ministries to support their efforts to come alongside those in difficult life circumstances and provide a dignified Christmas experience. Your involvement can be as simple as ordering some gifts on Amazon!



Donate gifts to the Urban Family Ministries Christmas Shoppe and to Dégagé's Christmas Store via their Amazon wish lists. There are also opportunities to serve by offering your time to price gifts, do inventory, provide snacks, shop with people and wrap gifts. All the links to buy gifts or sign up are at calvarygr.org/christmasgiving.

congregational care

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED PRAYER LIST

If you have been hospitalized, or anticipate hospitalization, and would like to be added to the prayer list, please call the church office at 956-9377.

Butterworth: Linda Hamlet, James McCoy

PRAYER CHAIN: If you need prayer, contact Don & Cindy Marrell (cmarrell@calvarygr.org) at 450-9622.

BEREAVED

We extend our Christian sympathy to friends and family of Renee Lorenz at her homegoing on November 3; and also to Robert

Bruner, Karen & John Moran, and Alyson Moran at the homegoing of their wife, mother and grandmother, Ruth Bruner, on November 4.

A NOTE ON SECURITY

We take security seriously and intentionally seek ways to maintain safe practices throughout our facility. Ultimately our trust and security is in the Lord. This past week, Pastor Jim and Lisa sent an email to the congregation in light of the shooting in Sutherland Springs, Texas. Copies of this note are available at the Welcome Center. Email database@calvarygr.org to be added to our All-Church Email List.

faith in action opportunities

Houston Mission Trip Info Meeting November 19 | 12:15pm | Rm 255

Trip participants will partner with Jon Shepherd to share the gospel in a cross-cultural setting, mainly to Muslims in Southwest Houston. Trip will take place in March 2018. This meeting is an opportunity to learn more and meet the trip's leader.

Christmas Food Baskets

Be a Christmas blessing this year by providing a food basket for one of our Calvary families, who is currently receiving financial assistance through Calvary Care. See what to include in the basket and when you can drop it off is at calvarygr.org.

FOR THE RECORD

	Projected Offerings	Actual Offerings	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Last Week	\$ 135,577	\$ 146,518	\$ 10,941
Fiscal YTD Sept. 1 - Nov. 5	\$ 1,407,844	\$ 1,335,586	(\$ 72,258)
Open Door Project		\$ 16,086	

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calvarygr.org

 CalvaryChurchGR
 calvarygr

November 12, 2017

9:00am & 10:45am

Spiritual Healing

Mark 2:1-11

Jim Samra, Senior Pastor

RESCUED
RESTORED
READY
STORIES OF REDEMPTION

calvary 
CHURCH

welcome

If you are visiting today, we are glad you are here. For information about our many groups, programs and events for all ages, pick up a copy of the quarterly *Calvary Life* magazine, visit us online at calvarygr.org, or stop by the Connection Point (located in the Gathering Place across from the main Sanctuary entrance). We would love to meet you! If you need hearing assistance, listening devices are available at the Welcome Center in the Crosswalk.

grace BEYOND

MORE THAN A BUILDING PROJECT

On December 17, we will have an opportunity as a church family to celebrate how God has led us through our Grace Beyond journey and commit to where He is leading us in the future. As we prepare for that day, we encourage you to pray about how God is asking you to respond.

Ask God if He is asking you to make an initial pledge, extend your current pledge or simply fulfill your existing pledge. Take these options before the Lord and ask Him where He has you. We believe prayer is powerful and effective and that God will lead you as you come to Him.

Over the past three years God has been transforming our church family. From the outset, we were asked to pray about this project and follow the ways God led us to participate. We have heard countless stories of people who prayed, listened and faithfully walked the path God called them to. With every act of obedient faith came blessing, alongside sacrifice and surrender. This practice has become a rhythm in our spiritual lives - taking things to the Lord in prayer and trusting the steps He lays before us.

If you are new to Calvary Church or have a story from your Grace Beyond experience that you'd like to share, we would love to connect with you. Our hope as a church family is to see everyone walking faithfully with the Lord, becoming more and more like Jesus. Contact gracebeyond@calvarygr.org to share your story or begin on this journey.

coming events & announcements

Young Adult Thanksgiving Feast November 19 | 6:00pm | Chapel

Come share your story and hear how God has been at work in the lives of other young adults (ages 18-34). We'll share a wonderful fall feast and dessert. Then, we'll pause to listen to one another share some of the blessings we have experienced from God over the last year. Bring a dish to pass!

Widows Coffee

November 20 | 10:00am | Rm 108

Come enjoy fellowship with other widows over a cup of coffee. Gwen Capcia from Starlight Ministries will be joining us again. RSVP to Katy (klambert@calvarygr.org).

Thanksgiving Eve Potluck

November 22 | 6:00pm

Gathering Place

Celebrate Thanksgiving with your church family. This year we are combining our potluck and service as one gathering. Calvary will provide the main dish and we ask that you bring sides or dessert to serve 10 (last names A-L bring sides; M-Z bring desserts). During the potluck you have an opportunity to share in a time of thanksgiving to our Lord. In order to help us plan accordingly, **register in advance at mycalvarygr.org by November 14.** Seating will be limited.

Explore Calvary

November 19 & 26 | 10:30am

Register at mycalvarygr.org

Meet others who are new to Cal-

vary along with some of our staff, tour the building, and ask questions about Calvary Church. The class is different each week.

Young Adults Christmas Soirée

December 8 | 7:30-10:00pm | \$12

Downtown Market (435 Ionia SW)

Come and enjoy an evening filled with delicious hors d'oeuvres, beautiful ambiance and a charming band as we gather together to celebrate Christmas in twinkling downtown Grand Rapids. This is a semi-formal Young Adults Christmas Party (ages 18-34). Invite your friends! Purchase your tickets at mycalvarygr.org by Dec. 1.

Advent - Begins December 3

Advent is the beginning of the Christian Year. Walking through the Christian Year provides us with the opportunity to practice what it means to be like Jesus by following the pattern of His life and death. Advent is a time of waiting in hopeful expectation for the birth of Jesus. The time when Immanuel, the Savior, will come to dwell with the people he will deliver.

Traditionally, Calvary has provided an Advent Guide to allow our church a collective experience of this season. This year we will not be distributing a church-wide Advent Guide. Suggested alternative resources for observing Advent will be available November 19 at calvarygr.org.

this week at calvary

- 1 Christmas at Calvary**
December 15 at 7:00pm | December 16 at 3:00 & 7:00pm
Tickets on Sale Today in the Gathering Place (West Side) (Cash or Check Only)
We are excited to present an incredible weekend for the church to celebrate together in music and drama this December. *Christmas at Calvary* includes performances by our choir and orchestra centered around a timely and important Christmas story that reminds us all to take another look at how we're celebrating this season. Our music will feature beloved holiday classics and modern favorites. All seating is general admission; tickets are \$5. **Skip the line** and purchase your tickets online at mycalvarygr.org.
- 2 OASIS Hymn Sing**
TONIGHT | 7:30pm | Chapel
Join us for an old fashioned hymn sing, led by Maury Lehmann. Use Entrance C. Doors open at 7:00.
- 3 Widowers Luncheon**
November 13 | 11:30am-1:00pm
Join Jack Huizenga and other widowers for some round table discussion over lunch. RSVP with Katy Lambert (klambert@calvarygr.org) at 956-9377.
- 4 Forever Hope Support Group**
November 16 | 7:00pm | Room 112
Open for all Calvary families who have adopted or are providing foster care. Come and enjoy fellowship, share prayer requests and watch a DVD that will count for training hours if you are a foster parent. This positive environment will provide encouragement, understanding and support, as well as the opportunity to ask questions of those who have experience and can offer helpful advice. Register at mycalvarygr.org.

Communion

The ordinance of communion will be observed in next Sunday's morning worship service. If needed, gluten-free bread will be available at the back of the Sanctuary prior to the service. We will also collect an offering for our Benevolent Ministry following our time of communion.