

weekly focus: central asia

This month, as members of Calvary's staff and congregation prepare to attend the Central Asia Consultation (CAC), we are sharing stories like this one we heard from a sister there:

We often think of "missions" as something that we as Westerners do in other parts of the world. But the young church in Central Asia has grasped that they have a part in reaching the unreached as well. Many of the languages and cultures in the area - from Western China through Turkey - are closely related and understandable to one another.

For the past two years, Lillian has led a team from her house church into another nation, reaching out to a people who regard Lillian's ethnic group with great respect. Since no one on the team spoke the majority language in this new nation, on their first trip they were delighted to find that they could function quite well in their own language among the minority they were trying to reach. They didn't have a plan for outreach, but they prayed and asked God for direction.

The next morning, the pastor who was with them shared that he had been reading the Parable of the Sower and thinking about how it reflected their ministry. Maybe God was telling them to speak to the people with parables, with stories. As they went out into the streets and markets and began to interact, they were overwhelmed with hospitality. They were invited to many homes for meals and the message they shared was welcomed. They prayed for the sick and saw God's healing at work. In one week, six people professed faith in Christ among this people group where years of Western outreach had seen little fruit.

This week, pray that the believers in Central Asia will not only grow strong in churches at home but that they will reach out to other people groups who also need the Good News. Pray that those who attend the Central Asia Consultation, which started Friday, will be refreshed and challenged.

40 Days For Life February 10 – March 20

40 Days for Life is a prayer initiative to end abortion, that began February 10 and ends March 20. It's not too late to get involved. To participate, contact Yvonne Bodell (ybodell@intraspacedesign.net) at 550-4245.

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.

St. Mary's:

Ebelina (Ebby) King

Meijer Heart:

Joan Kraai, Dave Curtis

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

THANK YOU

We are grateful to our Calvary Church family from Pastoral Care, Technical Services, Calvary Men, Calvary Women and the Long-Term Illness Support Group. Your support over the past five years has been so valuable to us. Especially now as we grieve the loss of my twin sister Marlene Cesare.

Marianne & Frank Lipcsei

LAW ENFORCEMENT & SECURITY

Calvary is seeking attendees who have law enforcement experience

and would be interested in assisting with security. Contact Don Tuuri (dtuuri@calvarygr.org).

PRAY WITH THE ELDERS MARCH 6 | 6:15-7:15PM

The elders meet for prayer with the congregation on the first Tuesday of the month in room 211. If you would like the elders to pray for you, please stop by. You are welcome to come unannounced, but it is helpful to schedule in advance. Contact Cindy Marrell (cmarrell@calvarygr.org) to be placed on the schedule.

SHOPPER NEEDED

Calvary's Food Pantry is looking for volunteer shoppers who can shop once or twice a month, can lift heavy products and have reliable transportation, preferably a truck or van, to transport groceries. Duties will include picking up groceries from Feeding America (Comstock Park) and delivering to Calvary's Food Pantry, unloading and stocking shelves. Contact Lynnell (lbok@calvarygr.org) at ext. 3510.

February 25, 2018

9:00am & 10:45am

When the Wind is in Your Face

Mark 6:45-56

Tom Olsson, *Lead Pastor*

RESCUED
RESTORED
READY

FOR THE RECORD

	Projected Offerings	Actual Offerings	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Last Week	\$ 134,370	\$ 125,509	(\$ 8,861)
Fiscal YTD Sept. 1 - Feb. 18	\$ 3,960,892	\$ 3,777,148	(\$183,744)
Open Door Project		\$ 167,838	

The deacons would like to thank those who contributed to our Benevolent offering. We collected \$18,977.50.

Calvary Church

707 E Beltline Ave NE
Grand Rapids MI 49525

Mailing Address:


PO Box 1600
Grand Rapids MI 49501

Ph (616) 956-9377

Fax (616) 956-9723

calvarygr.org

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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.

cityfest

Re:New Gathering
March 1 | 7:00pm | Free (Tickets required for entry)
ResLife Church, 5100 Ivanrest Ave SW

On September 8-9, Calvary has the opportunity to join together with local churches to share the gospel with our area through an evangelistic festival called CityFest. There will also be other events leading up to that festival. One of the upcoming events is at 7:00pm on March 1. ResLife Church will be holding a special night of prayer, teaching, and worship led by Francis Chan, Andrew Palau and, Phil Wickham. Please be in prayer for these events. Pray that God uses CityFest to bring the gospel to those in our community who are lost.

Another way you can participate in the preparation for CityFest is to join others in praying during the Pastors & Leaders Conference being held on the morning of March 1. Contact Cindy Marrell (cmarrell@calvarygr.org) to take a shift in the prayer room, from 8:00am-12:00pm, during this conference.

pray

Short-Term Missions: Houston Team

On March 3-11, we have a short term mission trip leaving to share the gospel with Muslims in Southwest Houston. Please pray that God will use this trip to strengthen the faith of the team and lead Muslims to Christ. They would also appreciate if you would prayerfully consider financially supporting their team. Visit mycalvarygr.org to give.

coming events & announcements

Wednesday Night Dinner 4:30-6:30pm | Gathering Place \$5 / person (\$20 max per family)

Choose from three different food stations to select from:

- Soup and Salad Bar
- Rotating Entrée Buffet
- Artisan Oven Delights featuring a variety of Pizzas & Grinders

Your meal includes all you can drink juice and water as well as a selection of desserts. Hospitality volunteers (in bright yellow aprons) are available to help you navigate the new selections, clear your table and find a seat.

We hope you will come by for dinner this Wednesday! This week's entrée is chicken alfredo pasta.

Join Calvary in Partnering with Hand2Hand

As part of an effort to show tangible love to our community Calvary Church is partnering with Hand2Hand, an organization that prays for and provides hungry children with food over the weekends. Join us in collecting donations for hungry children in our community. Items needed are displayed on the Hand2Hand banners found in the West End (right by your Sunday School class!). This is also the donation drop-off location. Questions? Contact Courtney Hoekwater (choekwater@calvarygr.org).

Short-Term Mission Trip Meetings: March 4 | 12:15pm

If you have a heart for people who are struggling in our area, come to the meeting for our Grand Rapids mission trip. You will have a chance to learn about organizations in our area that are helping individuals in need, as well as gain an understanding of the best practices for coming alongside the marginalized in our community. If you are interested in growing in boldness to share the gospel with both the young and old, come to our Mozambique informational meeting. In preparation for the trip, you will be taught how to share the Bible through storytelling.

- **Grand Rapids** | Room 110 | Trip Dates: June 21-23
- **Mozambique** | Room 115 | Trip Dates: June 11-23

Mountain Movers Prayer Group March 4 | 8:00-8:45am | Room 110

Join us next Sunday to pray for our missionaries and key regions around the world. No registration necessary. Light breakfast served.

5th/6th P.A.C. Attack March 4 | 12:30-2:30pm | Gym

P.A.C.'s are a great way for students who only come on Sundays to make new friends. We will play dodge ball, eat pizza, hang out, and watch a movie! Cost is \$3 - pay at the door, but register in advance at mycalvarygr.org.

Explore Calvary March 4 & 11 | 10:30am-12:00pm | Gathering Place

Explore Calvary is a three-session class that provides an opportunity to gather in an informal setting to meet staff and learn more about Calvary. Our final meeting is on Wednesday evening, March 14, where you will tour the church and enjoy Wednesday Fellowship Dinner together. Register at mycalvarygr.org. Questions? Contact Rebekah Kennedy (rkennedy@calvarygr.org).

this week at calvary

- 1 Women's Exercise**
Mondays | 9:30-11:00am | Gym (Room 208A)
Enjoy a variety of aerobics including: TaeBo®, Pilates, Zumba®, self defense and games. Devotionals offered fourth Monday from 11-11:30am. Contact Angela Crompton at 406-8106 or Barb Mirandette at 307-1754.
- 2 Long-Term Illness Support Group**
Second & Fourth Tuesdays | 7:00-8:30pm | Room 216
Are you or a loved one dealing with cancer or long-term illness? Join an ongoing group designed to provide a time of sharing and support as well as prayer and biblical encouragement. Contact Jerry Ward (jerryward68@att.net) at 452-1349.
- 3 Foundations: Roller Skating & Bowling**
March 3 | 6:00-8:00pm | \$10
Join other engaged or newly married couples (ages 22-34) for a fun throw back date night of roller skating and bowling. Contact Mason (msherrill@calvarygr.org) for more information. Register at mycalvarygr.org.

sunday night service

6:00pm | Gathering Place

Sunday night services at Calvary Church are an opportunity to worship God in a unique, discussion-oriented setting. Join us!