

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS UPDATE

india team: In January, a small group of us from Calvary went on a short-term mission trip to southeast Asia. The city in which we served is a difficult place with rampant poverty and few believers. While there, we had the opportunity to partner with a local pastor and his church-planting team. With that team, we participated in worship services, children's programs, a ladies' fellowship group, and a youth camp.

It is hard to put into words all that we experienced through our time there. There were heartbreaking moments when we saw the evidence of sin and brokenness in that place. There were also beautiful moments when we witnessed people responding to God's word, heard testimonies of transformed lives, and celebrated with other believers. We had front-row seats to the work which God is doing in that area of the world, and to the last one of us, we have been changed by this experience.

Return of Houston Short-Term Mission Team

Houston is back! If you see anyone from the Houston Mission trip and if you've been following their blog, please take a minute to ask the team how God strengthened their faith and used them to lead Muslims to Christ. Also, does your small group have an interest in learning how this team was trained to use their testimonies for Evangelism? Contact Natalie Uecker (nuecker@calvarygr.org) to set up a date to hear from the team. The Houston Team included: Bess Velzen, Kirstin Herbruck, Raquel DaSilva, and Grace Gibson.

Grand Rapids Short-Term Mission Trip

The Grand Rapids mission trip is from the evening of June 21 through June 23. If you would like to explore working in missions and want to learn more about homelessness in our city, this trip is for you. Applications are available online at calvarygr.org/short-term-mission-trips or at Chapel Information Center.

France Short-Term Mission Trip

Final shout-out to any family interested in traveling with the France Mission Trip, May 3-9. This team will prayer walk throughout the community and help host an annual town festival. Applications need to be turned in by Wednesday, March 14. Applications can be found at calvarygr.org/short-term-mission-trips.

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: Anna Walz

Meijer Heart: Mary Kaminskas

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

BEREAVED

We extend our Christian sympathy to Marcia Dillard at the homegoing of her husband, Pete, on March 5.

PRAYER FOR WORSHIP SERVICES SUNDAYS | 8:30-8:50AM | RM 255

Come pray with the morning's teaching pastor and other participants specifically that God would bless our morning services. All are encouraged to join.

MISSIONARY PRAYER GUIDES

Missionary Prayer Guides are available at the Chapel Information Center to guide you as you pray for our global and community workers throughout the month of March. You can also see a summary of prayer requests updated monthly at calvarygr.org.

PRAY FOR THE GREECE TEAM

Please pray for Calvary's short-term mission team who will be in Greece from March 15-25. The team will be working on the island of Lesbos at the new Women's Center, interacting with refugee woman and children. Pray for their safety and for unity as a team. Their team verse is Isaiah 1:17 "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow." To follow along with the team as they serve, visit calvarygr.org/stmblog.

March 11, 2018

9:00am & 10:45am

Spiritual Balance vs. Human Traditions
Mark 7:1-23

Jim Samra, *Senior Pastor*



FOR THE RECORD

	Projected Offerings	Actual Offerings	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Last Week	\$ 144,986	\$ 172,641	\$ 27,655
Fiscal YTD Sept. 1 - Mar. 4	\$ 4,240,249	\$ 4,082,489	(\$157,760)
Jerusalem Project		\$ 169,473	

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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.

this week at calvary

- 1 Hymn Sing**
TONIGHT | 7:30pm | Chapel
Join our OASIS (Older Adults Sharing in Service) ministry for a hymn sing led by Maury Lehmann. Special Musical Guests will be the Calvary Handbell Ensemble.
- 2 UNITED (High School) Parent Prayer**
TONIGHT | 6:00pm | Prayer Room
All parents of high school students are invited to join us for prayer as we lift up our students, leaders and the HSM ministry. We meet the second Sunday of the month.
- 3 Blessed2Bless Prayer Gathering**
March 12 | 10:00-11:30am | Rm 215
Women, gather for inspiration and prayer as we take steps of faith into our neighborhoods, work places, families and friend groups.
- 4 Grandparenting Prayer Group**
March 14 | 11:15am-12:15pm
Join with us in room 207 to spend time encouraging one another and praying for our grandchildren.
- 5 March Madness**
March 15 & 16 | Gathering Place
Watch as much or as little as you can handle of the first round action of 2018 March Madness in a fun, family-friendly environment! Watch the games broadcast on multiple screens - from tip-off to the final buzzer! There will be delicious lunches and dinners both days. A \$5 donation per meal is requested but not required.

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

This week's main entrée is pot roast. Come join us!

Men's Ministry: **Conversational Evangelism**

Join the Men of 7:24 and learn a refreshing, conversational approach to evangelism to turn everyday encounters with pre-believers towards Christ. This workshop will include a DVD, PowerPoints and class discussion. We will meet Saturdays, March 24, April 7, 14, and 21; 8:00-10:00am in room 265 (Entrance K). Just show up or call Dave at 560-2126 with questions. This is a free workshop.

Third Monday Missionary Prayer **March 19 | 11:30am | Room 114**

The third Monday of each month we gather to hear updates about and pray for our missionaries around the world. Bring your own lunch and join us in Room 114 (Entrance G).

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!

Visit the Church Library **Sundays 8:30-11:00am** **Wednesdays 5:45-7:15pm**

The Calvary Church Library is open! Find materials that will encourage and challenge your Christian walk and equip you to minister to others.

Location: Lower Level, Entrance G then left.

High School: Halftime **Wednesdays | 3:30-5:00pm** **Meet: Gathering Place**

Refresh and reconnect with your High School friends midweek to enjoy snacks, various games and activities, and exciting conversation... all while hanging out with Josh Karhan (Pastoral Staff, High School) and a guest Calvary staff member or ministry leader. The first half of our time will be for fun and relaxation. Come make the Gathering Place your own while getting to know those who help to make Calvary such a great place. During the second half of the afternoon, our weekly guest will lead us in an engaging discussion on a topic they are passionate about, and which is relevant to what God is up to in the Church today... including how students can participate in the action!

holy week

The week preceding Easter is known as Holy Week. It begins on Palm Sunday and is traditionally a week of somber reflection on the events preceding Jesus' death. At Calvary, all regular ministry programming is canceled during Holy Week to make space for extended prayer and worship.

Palm Sunday Musical **March 25 | 6:00pm | Sanctuary**

Begin Holy Week with an Easter worship experience, *This is God*, presented by the choir and orchestra.

Maundy Thursday Seder Meal & Service **March 29 | 6:00-9:00pm | Gathering Place | Cost: \$15/person**

This year we will combine a Seder meal with our traditional Maundy Thursday service, walking through Jesus' time with His disciples in the Upper Room. A better understanding of the Seder meal (Jewish Passover) enables Christians to more appreciate the meaning of the Lord's Supper. As we are seeking to grow and develop this experience, we will need to limit our initial offering to 300 people. Register at mycalvarygr.org. Financial assistance is available. Contact Kristen (kwhite@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5013.

Prayer Garden Open **March 29 at 9:00pm - March 30 at 7:00pm**

The Prayer Garden will be open overnight following the Maundy Thursday meal and service. This provides an opportunity to track with the example of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane, where He prayed prior to being betrayed (Mark 14).

Good Friday **March 30 | 7:00pm | Sanctuary**

Join us for an evening of reflection that commemorates the night when Christ bore the ultimate burden for us and was crucified in order to give us peace with God. No childcare provided.

Easter Sunday Services **April 1 | 7:15, 9:00 & 10:45am**

A celebration of Christ's victory over sin, fear and death and of the peace and new life we can find in Him. Nursery will be provided for birth through 35 months (at 9:00 & 10:45). No children's or adult classes will meet on Easter. We encourage you to attend the sunrise service, if you are able.