

weekly focus: central-asia trip

There is still opportunity to join the Short-Term Mission Team serving in Central Asia this summer. The trip is scheduled from June 16-30. We are planning to provide encouragement and support for the pastors and church workers in Central Asia by hosting a training retreat for them, as well as participating in a camping excursion that will focus on making connections and sharing the gospel with teenagers and young adults.

Brian, a participant in last year's team had this to say about his experience: The trip opened my eyes to the many challenges that a believer faces in a culture that does not embrace Christianity. A member of the local church told of his conversion to Christianity and how his family disowned him. We drove by a local cemetery where many of his family members and friends are buried. "But I can't be buried there," he said, "because I'm a Christian."

One of the many highlights of the trip was praising God alongside local church members and orphans around a campfire, surrounded by snowcapped mountains, and hearing the word of God preached in three different languages. It was a reminder that, despite differences in language, geography, culture and personal upbringing, we serve a global God.

If you are interested in growing in your faith, experiencing different cultures, developing relationships, and sharing the love of God with others, sign up soon because training for the team is scheduled to start shortly. While this can be a rather challenging trip, it has been an incredible blessing to those who have gone and to those we have served. To get more information about the trip or to answer questions, please call Kim Velting (292-6861).

To apply, you may pick up an application from Missions department or apply online at calvarygr.org under Missions.

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.

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: Rhonda Anderson

Kent Community Continuing Care: Christopher Hinton

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

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

The Elders of Calvary Church have approved the following for membership: Gregory & Viktoriya Mangione and Jerry Davis.

Dave & Tina DeHoek; Daniel & Karilee Hayden; Robert & Rebekah Kennedy; David Mansouri & Sara Mehran; Phyllis Powell; Jonathan & Dalice Rohrer; Evan & Carrie Parks; and Eunwoo Lee have applied for membership at Calvary Church. If you are aware of any information that should be

considered by the elders during the membership process, please contact elders@calvarygr.org.

HIGH SCHOOL: SENIOR PHOTOS

We are accepting senior photos through May 1 to include in the summer issue of the *Calvary Life*. Please email photos with the full name of the student and their high school to Samantha (sheetderks@calvarygr.org).

JERUSALEM PROJECT

In 2017 God gave Calvary a new vision for partnering with His work locally and around the world – the Jerusalem Project. This fund will support Calvary's ongoing work to strengthen existing churches, plant new churches and train pastoral residents. In late 2017 the season for the Open Door Project ended. The existing funds in the 2017-18 ODP fund will be transferred to the Jerusalem Project as this year's project aligned with goals of the Jerusalem Project.

March 18, 2018

9:00am & 10:45am

Persevere in Prayer

Mark 7:24-37

Jim Samra, *Senior Pastor*



FOR THE RECORD

	Projected Offerings	Actual Offerings	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Last Week	\$ 144,986	\$ 201,159	\$ 56,173
Fiscal YTD Sept. 1 - Mar. 11	\$ 4,385,235	\$ 4,283,646	(\$101,589)
Jerusalem Project		\$ 173,555	

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

CalvaryChurchGR

calvarygr

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.

this week at calvary

- 1 Calvary Equip: Parenting Teens with Love & Logic Sundays | 6:30-8:00pm | Room 251 (Entrance K)**
Parenting Teens with Love and Logic empowers parents with the skills necessary to set limits, teach important skills, and encourage decision-making in their teenagers without going crazy or damaging the relationship. Register at mycalvarygr.org.
- 2 Third Monday Missionary Prayer March 19 | 11:30am | Room 114 (Entrance G)**
Gather to hear updates about and pray for our missionaries around the world. Bring your own lunch and join us.
- 3 Widows / Widowers Coffee: Tech Night Open House March 22 | 4:00-7:00pm | Gathering Place (Dinner Provided)**
Receive help with any of your electronic devices like cell phones, iPads, laptops, etc. We are thankful to have some of our Calvary young adults help us with this event. Questions? Contact Katy (klambert@calvarygr.org).
- 4 Men's Ministry: Conversational Evangelism Begins March 24 | 8:00-10:00am | Room 260 (Entrance K)**
Men, come learn a refreshing, conversational approach to evangelism to turn everyday encounters with pre-believers towards Christ. We will meet March 24, April 7, 14, and 21. Just show up or call Dave at 560-2126 with questions.

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!

coming events & announcements

Calvary Students: Mission Trip Application Deadlines Approaching
Students in grades 5-8th have many opportunities to engage in short-term missions this summer. Applications are available at calvarystudents.com or at the Connection Point following the service. Applications for the 7th/8th trip to Kalamazoo are due April 1. 5/6 Grand Rapids trip applications are due May 7. For more information, contact Samantha (sheetderks@calvarygr.org).

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

This week's main entrée is pork loin. Come join us!

prayer opportunities

Pre-Service Prayer Sundays | 8:30-8:50am | Room 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.

Boiler Room Prayer Sundays | 8:50-11:50am Room 222 (Behind Sanctuary)
Pray over every aspect of the service as the Holy Spirit leads, assisted by a request sheet com-

High School: Halftime Wednesdays | 3:30-5:00pm Meet: Gathering Place
Refresh and reconnect with your high school friends midweek. Enjoy snacks, various games and activities, and exciting conversation.

Calvary Softball - Looking for Players
Calvary Softball will begin the second week of May. You may play one night a week or as many nights as you would like. We will have teams in leagues located as close to the church as possible. All games are 1 hour and begin after 6:00pm and are done by 9:30pm. We are looking for men and women of all ages and skill level. You will have an opportunity to play in either Women's, Men's, or CoEd leagues. Questions? Contact Cy Jourdan (cymiwolv@yahoo.com).

posed by staff. Questions? Contact Cindy Marrell (cmarrell@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5098.

Pastor Jim'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 Kristen White (kwhite@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5013.

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.

Please note that there is only one event - the meal and service combined and advanced registration is required for attendance.

PRAYER GARDEN OPEN · March 29 at 9:00pm - March 30 at 7:00pm
The Prayer Garden overnight, providing an opportunity for you 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.