

## missionary christmas

Calvary Church is a church that cares – for each other, for those among us who are suffering, and for the poor and oppressed in our community and around the world. One way we extend that care beyond our walls is by caring intentionally for the missionaries we partner with.

**Intentional, tangible care for our missionaries is something you can be involved in!** Through September and October, you can give to our annual Missionary Christmas offering. Through your generosity, our missionaries each year receive a gift with no strings attached to use for whatever they need the most.

To donate, indicate *Missionary Christmas* on your check or on the Giving Envelope and drop it in the offering plate. You can also donate online at [mycalvarygr.org](http://mycalvarygr.org) or by texting GIFT to 616-294-0700. Thank you for caring – not only that the Gospel goes out, but that those who carry it forward are blessed through their connection with Calvary Church. Here is what two of our missionaries said about last year's gifts:

Thank you for the Christmas gift! Calvary takes such good care of us. It truly makes us feel loved. Today when I read this to Carla we just looked at each other and shook our heads in amazement at how Calvary Church continues to embrace us in so many ways.  
Joel and Carla

Thank you so much for your continued generosity to our family. Your recent Christmas gift was so kind and loving and very encouraging to us. Sometimes we go through moments of despair but continue to find God's steadfast love endures forever. He is good to us through generous people and churches like Calvary. May God bless you with joy in this Christmas season!  
Zac and Leigh

### Next Week's Ministry in Focus: Partners in Housing

Next Sunday, September 30 at the Connection Point we will focus on *Partners in Housing* as we work on the manufactured home we are calling, "House of Hope." Look for people wearing shirts saying, "Calvary Church at Work" and ask them about what they've been doing and how you can also help. See you in the Connection Point!

### Short-Term Missions: Mozambique

In November, a small team from Calvary will be traveling to Tanzania to work with and teach the people there. Please keep the team in your prayers. They are currently accepting donations at [mycalvarygr.org](http://mycalvarygr.org). Thank you so much for your support.

## congregational care & opportunities

### RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

#### PRAYER LIST

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

**Meijer Heart Center:** Gary Stoutenburg

**Blodgett:** Ken Lorenz

### BEREAVED

We extend our Christian sympathy to Ken & Eley Kollar at the homegoing of Ken's brother, David Kollar, on September 3; to friends and family of Bonnie Mattson at her homegoing on September 13; to David & Sally Dams and Bryan & Erica and Laura Dams, at the homegoing of their father and grandfather, Harvey Dams, on September 17; to Anne Bouwman at the homegoing of her husband, Roger, on September 18; and also to Rick Lillich, Lauren and Peter Lillich, at the homegoing of their wife and mother, Marsha, on September 18.

### THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who prayed for me following my recent back surgery, as well as to all the pastoral visits who visited me. I received a great doctor's report. Praise the Lord!

George Johnson

### OPEN POSITION - FACILITIES STAFF

Calvary Church is hiring for a full-time staff position in the Facilities Department. If you feel God is calling you to serve Calvary in this manner, contact Chris DeHaan ([cdehaan@calvarygr.org](mailto:cdehaan@calvarygr.org)) at 956-9377, ext. 5160.

### SERVING OPPORTUNITY

Calvary's Food Pantry is looking for additional volunteers to help shop on alternate Wednesday mornings at Feeding America. You need to be able to lift heavy items and must have either a truck or van. Sign up at [mycalvarygr.org](http://mycalvarygr.org). Questions? Contact Lynnell Bok ([lbok@calvarygr.org](mailto:lbok@calvarygr.org)) at ext. 3510.

### FOR THE RECORD • FISCAL YEAR 2018-19

	Projected Offerings	Actual Offerings	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Last Week	\$ 145,043	\$ 143,105	(\$ 1,938)
Fiscal YTD Sept. 1 - Sept. 16	\$ 435,129	\$ 379,128	(\$ 56,001)
Jerusalem Project		\$ 4,790	

### Calvary Church

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#### Mailing Address:

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[calvarygr.org](http://calvarygr.org)

 CalvaryChurchGR  
 calvarygr

September 23, 2018

9:00 & 10:45am

Settle the Matter

Isaiah 1

Jim Samra, Senior Pastor



# Isaiah

LISTENING TO TODAY'S MESSAGE

Language Interpretation: During the 9:00 service, the sermon is interpreted into Mandarin and Farsi. 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.

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.

NEXT STEPS

Are you looking for a way to invest in others at Calvary? Consider serving as your next right step. Opportunities including caring for kids, assisting with laundry, handyman tasks and much more. Visit the Connection Point (across from the main Sanctuary entrance) following the service or see mycalvarygr.org to take your next right step at Calvary.

BEYOND SUNDAY MORNING

We send out a reflection email each Tuesday morning to help you engage with today's message and apply it to your life all week long. Sign up at mycalvarygr.org (your email subscriptions are found under My Profile).

Isaiah Reading Plan: For the Isaiah series, we are providing a reading plan to help the congregation prepare for the upcoming message each week. Reading For the Coming Week: Isaiah 2 & Acts 17:16-34

annual meeting recap

Thank you to everyone who came out last Sunday to participate in our annual church meeting. It was a joy to look back at the year and thank God for His faithfulness in the life of our church.

This year, there are five outgoing elders and five outgoing deacons. We thank each one of them for their service. The outgoing elders are: Eric Cerling, Steve Gronsmann, Les Lamborn, Dave Oviatt, and Mike Still. The outgoing deacons are: Steve Bagley, Josh Hulst, Jon Rudolph, Kim Velting and Dan Wiersma. After their nominations were affirmed by the congregation, new elders and deacons were determined by lot. The new elders are: Bill Azkoul, Steve Doren, Dave Ellis, Dale McNinch and Earl Thomas. The new deacons are: Don Armbruster, Nate Benham, Nigel Crompton, Craig Johnson and Wilhelm Klierer. Join us in prayer for these men as they begin their responsibilities.

Three constitutional updates were shared at the Annual Meeting for members to vote on the evening of October 28. The proposed updates include adding a definition of marriage, adjusting language to include women serving as deacons, and moving the Annual Meeting to October. A summary of these updates and a marked-up version of the Constitution are available at the Welcome Center. They are also available at calvarygr.org. The elders will host a Q&A time on these updates, during the 10:45am service on Sept. 30 and during the 9:00am service on Oct. 7 in the Gathering Place.

The preliminary financial report given at the meeting is available at calvarygr.org/calvary-news. Copies of the 2017-2018 Annual Report are available at the back of the Sanctuary. Please note that the Mercy and Missions total printed in the Annual Report is incorrect and should be \$2,427,218.

coming events

Hymn Sing Tonight | 7:30pm | Chapel
Come lift your voices as we rejoice together with the timeless hymns you know and love.

Small Group Launch Sept. 30 | 12:30pm | Gathering Place
Come learn what small groups are out there and how you can get involved. Sign up at mycalvarygr.org.

OASIS (Older Adults) Monthly Lunch October 1 | 10:00am | Gathering Place
This month's speaker is Casey Lauf

sharing about exercise. The cost for lunch is \$8 and you must make reservations one week in advance with Howard & Arlene Timmer at 365-0728 (hrtakt@iserv.net).

Pray With the Elders October 2 | 6:15-7:15pm | Room 211
The elders meet for prayer on the first Tuesday of the month. If you would like the elders to pray for you, please stop by or contact Cindy (cmarrell@calvarygr.org) in advance so she can put you on the schedule.

this week at calvary

- 1 Free College Lunch Today | 12:00pm | Room 208B (Gym)
Hey college students! We are so glad to have you here at Calvary. Join us after the 10:45 service for our free College Lunch!
2 Middle School 78: Pizza in the Park TODAY | 12:15-2:00pm
Meet & Pick Up At: Grand Rapids Township Park (1836 E Beltline)
Join us in the park for pizza! We'll have games and hammocks, and will soak up the last bits of summer together.
3 New Sunday Evening Series: Becoming a Contagious Christian Begins TONIGHT | 6:00pm | \$7 | Register at mycalvarygr.org
We will be going through a series on Becoming a Contagious Christian. This video series will help you learn how to communicate your faith in a style that fits you. DVD segments, as well as individual and group activities, will help you gain confidence and equip you to build spiritually significant relationships, direct conversations toward matters of faith and tell your own story of coming to faith.
4 Middle School Parent Gathering September 26 | 5:00-6:00pm | Room 208B (Gym)
We would love to share a meal together and chat about what's in store this year in Middle School Ministry. You'll have an opportunity to ask questions, catch up with other parents, and meet our team. Dinner will be provided from 5:00-5:45pm. Childcare is not provided, but your kids are welcome to join at your discretion and supervision. Register in advance at mycalvarygr.org.
5 Middle School 56: Jump Start September 28 | 6:30-8:30pm | Room 208 (Entrance D) | \$5
Invite your friends to help us jump start our year! We will laugh and jump and play together on many different inflatables! This event is a great opportunity to invite friends from school or your neighborhood to begin the year with us! Snacks will be provided. Please register in advance at mycalvarygr.org.

CONNECTING BEYOND THE BULLETIN

We produce a quarterly Calvary Life magazine with ministry updates, and faith-enriching articles. Pick one up at the back of the Sanctuary. 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.

welcome Добро пожаловать!
bienvenido
i mirepritur BEM VINDA 환영
كَب ال هَا
WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!