

OPPORTUNITIES FOR

# Christmas Giving

At Christmas we partner with local ministries: Urban Family Ministry, Dégagé and Mel Trotter Ministries. Join us in volunteering at either ministry's Christmas store or in purchasing gifts off of their Amazon wish lists. Plan now for how you can devote time to help, and experience the blessing of serving during the holiday season. You will receive more than you give!

## URBAN FAMILY MINISTRY'S CHRISTMAS SHOPPE

In an effort to give more than gifts to their families, UFM created a "Christmas Shoppe" where families involved in their programs can purchase gifts at greatly reduced price and have a personal investment in giving to their family at Christmas. While there is a wide range of things that the shoppe provides, they are especially looking for people to donate toys.

This is what one mom said about the Christmas Shoppe last year:

"The Christmas Shoppe was a tremendous blessing to my family. I wasn't going to be able to buy gifts this year for my kids but you helped make it possible!" - single mom of 3

## DÉGAGÉ/MEL TROTTER CHRISTMAS STORE

Help provide a dignified Christmas for the Heartside neighborhood. These two ministries work together to bring support and encouragement to those who are homeless or low-income. On top of losing shelter, employment, and control of their lives, many of these individuals have never received a Christmas present before. When asked what they would like for Christmas, instead of expensive gifts, it was cozy socks and warm clothes that they hoped to receive.

## TAKE your NEXT step»

### COME TO THE CONNECTION POINT AFTER THE SERVICE TO PICK UP A RED ORNAMENT

Each ornament has directions how to volunteer at both of these Christmas shops as well as purchase gifts from their Amazon wish lists. For more information, you can also visit [calvarygr.org/christmasgiving](http://calvarygr.org/christmasgiving).

## ADOPT A FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS

If you would like to bless a family for Christmas this year, Calvary Care has a few families who are looking to be adopted. They are in need of an extra Christmas blessing and could use your love. A list of gift ideas will be available at time you sign up. These families are a part of Calvary's Benevolent Ministry and our Refugee Ministry. To receive a family's name and gift ideas, contact Lynnell (lbok@calvarygr.org) at ext. 3510. Merry Christmas!

# congregational care

## 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.

**Blodgett:** Karen Herrmann

**Mary Free Bed:** Nancy Bowman

## BEREAVEMENT

We extend our Christian sympathy to Michael and Margaret O'Callaghan at the homegoing of Mike's mother, De-lores O'Callaghan, on November 9.

## URBANA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This year we are excited to have a group of thirty young adults and high school students join us as we go to Urbana. Urbana is a five day missions conference in St. Louis where these young people will learn more about what God has for them in His global mission. If you would like to partner with this group, you can donate to the project fund (just drop

your checks in the offering plate and mark that it's for Urbana) and pray for them as they prepare for the conference starting December 27.

## EXTRA ISAIAH STUDIES AVAILABLE

This year our adult Bible Studies are going through "Revealed: Seeing the LORD Through the Imagery of Isaiah." Extra copies are available for purchase in the library (\$10), if you are interested in doing the study on your own.

## NOMINATION COMMITTEE LOOKING FOR YOUR HELP

The Nominating Committee requests your input, in helping identify qualified, godly men for consideration for the offices of Elder and Deacon. We request that you either use a nomination form, available at the Information Desk, or send an email with the nominee's name and the reasons why you are nominating him, to [nominate@calvarygr.org](mailto:nominate@calvarygr.org).

## FOR THE RECORD • FISCAL YEAR 2018-19

	Projected Offerings	Actual Offerings	Surplus/ (Deficit)
Last Week	\$ 141,554	\$ 126,930	(\$ 14,624)
Fiscal YTD Sept. 1 - Nov. 18	\$ 1,738,893	\$ 1,614,686	(\$124,207)
Jerusalem Project		\$ 23,764	

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

 CalvaryChurchGR  
 calvarygr

November 25, 2018

9:00 & 10:45am

The Good Boss

Isaiah 13-14:27

Jim Samra, Senior Pastor



# Isaiah

TODAY at calvary church

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.

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 13-14 & 1 John 2:3-3:10.

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.

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.

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Добро пожаловать!

bienvenido

WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

coming events & announcements

College Breakfast Week  
December 3 | 8:30-10:00am  
IHOP (Knapp's Corner)

December 4 | 8:30-10:00am  
Anna's House (2409 E Beltline Ave SE)

December 5 | 8:30-10:00am  
Big Boy (407 Pearl St NW)

Take a break during finals week/ last week of class to enjoy a free breakfast. Pancakes and eggs will give you that extra boost you need for last minute studying. Questions? Contact Lee (lbergakker@calvarygr.org) at ext. 5175.

OASIS (Older Adults) Monthly Lunch  
Dec. 3 | 10:00am | Gathering Place  
Join us for our OASIS monthly luncheon. This month we will be joined by the Skylight Quartet. Lunch is \$8 and you must make reservations one week in advance by calling: Howard & Arlene Timmer at 365-0728 ( hrtakt@iserv.net).

High School: AirTime  
December 7 | 7:00-9:00pm | \$10  
3665 28th St. SE (Centerpointe Mall)  
"Engineered for fun. Powered by music." This is AirTime's motto, and whether you're dunking on their tallest hoops, hurtling over an opponent's dodge ball, jousting, or simply seeing who can jump the highest, you'll discover that this trampoline park lives up to its design. Join us! Register at mycalvarygr.org.

Young Adults: Christmas Soiree  
December 8 | 7:30-10:00pm  
1000 E Beltline Ave NE

Gather with us at Meijer Gardens as we enjoy an evening filled with delicious hors d'oeuvres and explore the gardens. We'll celebrate the season together, semi-formal style. Tickets (\$12) are available at mycalvarygr.org through December 7 (no refunds).

Widows Ministry Christmas Lunch  
Dec. 9 | 12:30pm | Gathering Place  
Join us as we decorate Christmas cookies with Calvary's High School Ministry. Register at mycalvarygr.org.

Christmas at Calvary Presents  
"Welcome to Bethlehem"  
December 14 at 7:00pm | December 15 at 3:00 & 7:00pm  
Christmas is a time for joy and bringing hope to a hurting world. Throughout this musical, the theme of hope shines through. From a couple struggling financially, to a teenage runaway needing help when she finds herself homeless, *Welcome to Bethlehem* encourages us to remember a timeless truth..."when it seems you just can't go on, there's always hope." Tickets (\$5) are sold at calvarygr.org/christmasatcalvary. You can also purchase tickets in the Worship Ministry Office (Entrance G) on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00am-2:00pm.

this week at calvary

1 College Pajama Party  
November 30 | 8:00-11:30pm | Room 208 | \$2  
Come in your most stylish PJs and enjoy movies, popcorn, board games and pizza in a cozy atmosphere. The most fun set of pajamas wins a prize. Register at mycalvarygr.org.

constitutional updates - survey results

The results of the member survey regarding the three potential constitutional updates are as follows:

- 1. Definition of Marriage: Total Votes - 543  
YES - 534, NO - 9
- 2. Women Serving as Deacons: Total Votes - 528  
YES - 391, NO - 137
- 3. Moving Annual Meeting: Total Votes - 531  
YES - 526, NO - 5

Thank you for your participation. If you have ongoing questions, contact elders@calvarygr.org. The elders will be communicating next steps as we move toward a congregational meeting in Spring 2019.

advent begins next sunday

The church calendar begins its year with Advent: a season of expectation and waiting that stretches from the fourth Sunday before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. Calvary provides an advent guide for those looking for a weekly practice by which to walk through this season with greater intentionality. This guide follows key individuals through a portion of their biblical narrative, observing their obedience to God in bringing about His ultimate plan of redemption. Each week also asks you to consider how their stories impact your own. Throughout Advent, you will see how God redeems pain, blesses obedience, and provides for us as we wait on Him - and ultimately how He fulfills all His promises in Jesus. You can print the Advent Guide cards at home (calvarygr.org/advent) or pick up a copy of the Guide in the back of the Sanctuary beginning today. This is the same Advent Guide provided in 2017.

This year we will also be using our Reflect email to consider how to look at our messages in the Isaiah series in light of Advent. We send out this 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).

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.