



The Calvary Connection

Calvary Presbyterian Church
Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 971-3121

Newsletter, Volume 48, No. 02 February 2020

Pastor's Corner

Calvary Presbyterian's Online Prayer and Internet Ministry

(Our study of Calvary's six core values will resume in March)

Online Prayer Ministry

- Back in late 2016, our office manager, Jan, began forwarding to me the periodic prayer requests that were coming via the message link on the Calvary website.
- The number of requests kept growing, so we created a separate prayer link, allowing prayer requests to go directly to the pastor—and then, to the Calvary intercessory prayer team (which meets every Wednesday).
- I hoped that this link would provide an opportunity for members and friends of Calvary, and folks from our local community, to be able to submit their occasional prayer needs
- Amazingly, the number of prayer requests continued to grow; with most requests not being local; but rather from other states and other countries! It is by God's grace, that folks across the world have found our website and prayer link.
- Since many of the requests are from persecuted nations—we added, in 2019, an option for the requester to indicate whether or not they wanted the pastor to respond to their email. The reason is that in persecuted countries, an email response could put the requester in danger if intercepted.

Below are summaries of some of the prayer requests we have received from other states and nations. I have changed the names to preserve confidentiality; however the countries noted are unchanged.

- **From Miami:** A request for salvation and deliverance of a loved one (Mina).

- **From US:** Prayers for healing of Mary's son-in-law who is battling brain cancer; and Mark's son with a congenital nerve malformation.
- **(Location unknown):** Prayers for Sanjay's family members who are fighting stomach disease, flu, and cough; and also for Sanjay who has been struggling with his faith because of his loved ones' illnesses.
- **(Location unknown):** Maria prays for reconciliation with her significant other, Julio.
- **South Africa:** Prayers from Jim, that two ladies that he knows will come to know Jesus' love and grace.
- **New Zealand:** Prayers from Joanne that all witchcraft and occult practices be bound and broken off from her life.
- **Finland:** Prayers for God to deliver the alcoholics and addicts at a spiritual camp there—from their addictions
- **Finland:** That God will heal, save, and renew those who attend the local inner-city Christmas event there.
- **Nigeria:** From Stefan: That the Lord will keep his family healthy; protect them from kidnappers and assassins; and also from the forces of the occult.
- **Kenya:** From Adongo: For him and his fellow group of Christians to hold fast to their faith, and reject the false teachings of their elders—even if they must die to uphold their witness for Christ.
- **Michigan:** From a college student wanting to know more about the biblical doctrine of predestination.
- **Hong Kong:** Requests from Liu that he not lose his administrative job because of his preaching the Gospel.

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Worship Leaders

Lectors – February 2, Norma Scheider;
February 9, Bill Scheider; February 16, June Escara-Wilke; February 23, Kay Hartung
Communion Servers – February 2, Frona Foltin and Kay Hartung
Ushers – February 2, Heather Sedlak;
February 9, Ed Foltin; February 16, Bill Scheider; February 23, Dennis Kahlbaum
Greeters – Everybody
Sunday Prayer Ministry – February 2, Norma Scheider; February 9, 16, & 23, June Escara-Wilke
Bible Zone Teachers – February 9, Norma Scheider; February 16, Adrienne Backues; February 23, Claudia Doudney
Teen Teacher / Bible Zone Assistants – February 9, Frona Foltin; February 16, Activity; February 23, Dawn Cornfield
Nursery Care Team as needed – Steven or Adrienne Backues; Norma Scheider, Claudia Doudney, or Jean Cochran

Send Cards. Make Their Day!

Grace Davis

David Galbraith

Wayne & Dorothy Morsfield

Mike Skoman

Sandy Sims



Sundays in February

Communion – First Sunday

You don't need to be perfect to come to Jesus, just hungry.

Noisy Offering – Second Sunday

Bring coins. The children collect the Noisy Offering for the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to support **Maikel (Maicor) Junior Valentin** from Dominican Republic through Compassion International and help out with emergency needs that are not provided by local agencies.

Minute for Mission – Fourth Sunday

Scripture Selections and Sermon Titles

- 2/2 1st Reading: Psalm 19:7-14
2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
Sermon: "Too Smart For Our Own Good"
- 2/9 1st Reading: Psalm 112
2nd Reading: Matthew 5:13-16
Sermon: "Salting and Shining"
- 2/16 1st Reading: 1 John 3:7-10
2nd Reading: Psalm 119:1-8
Sermon: "The Glories of God's Law"
- 2/23 1st Reading: Psalm 50:1-6
2nd Reading: Luke 9:28-36
Sermon: "From the Mountaintop to the Valley"

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- 2/26 **Ash Wednesday**
Reading: Psalm 51
Sermon: "The Sacrifices of God"

Pastoral Care

Please feel free to contact Pastor Keith by phone or email if you are in need of prayer, visitation, or counsel. He may be reached at (313) 378-1162, or keithcornfield8@gmail.com.

SESSION OF CALVARY CHURCH

"Love each other as I have loved you." John 15:12

We want to share your joy and sorrow, give you support or pray for you. If you have something to share, please call the pastor or an elder.

Adrienne Backues, Norma Scheider, June Escara-Wilke,
Heather Sedlak, Clerk of Session: Claudia Doudney

Choir

Practices are each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
(except the 1st Sunday)



Praise Team

Practice is the 1st Sunday of each
month at 9:00 a.m.

“Friends & Music” at Calvary

Friday, February 21st
at 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

For adults and teens with
special needs.

For info about attending, contact Claudia.
For info about serving, contact Steven.

Women’s Bible Study

February 13th & 27th
at 1:00

See Frona for more information.

Bible Zone

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Bible Zone is offered each Sunday, except
the first Sunday of each month,
for children ages 4-12.

LIVE WIRE (ADULT BIBLE STUDY)

Each Sunday, Pastor Keith leads a study on
that Sunday’s sermon and Scripture reading.
Discussion questions are in the weekly
bulletin. Class is 11:30 – 12:15.

COMMUNION

If you are a member and would like to be
served Communion at home, please contact
Pastor Keith.

(313) 378-1162, or
keithcornfield8@gmail.com

Intercessory Prayer Ministry

Every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.
At Calvary



See Norma for more information.

Prayer Requests

You can now submit prayer requests through
our website

www.calvarya2.com

Click on “Connect With Us”

Click on “Prayer Requests”

Fill in the information and prayer request
(message) and click on the “send prayer
request” button.

Missed a Sermon?

Did you know that if you missed a sermon
or want to hear one again you can? There are
two ways that you can listen to our Sunday
sermons.

One method is to go to:
www.calvarya2.com. Near the top of the page
is a rectangle labeled “Sermons”. Click on that
and you will be taken to a page with the
sermons. You can either read or listen to them.

There are CDs available at the church (prior
to June 16, 2019). You can stop by when Jan
is in the office or call her and make
arrangements to borrow one. You will need to
know the date of the sermon of interest.

Standing with the Global Church

Letters to Prisoners Can Make a Tangible Difference

From Persecution.org

I can't even imagine what it must have been like for Maryam and Marziyeh, two young Christian women from Iran who spent years in prison for their devotion to bringing their countrymen to faith.

For years, they worked in secret, operating a massive Bible smuggling ring. With only the darkness of the night for protection, they distributed thousands of Bibles to Muslim seekers.

"We put a big map of Tehran on the wall and decided to cover each area. At night, we would carry New Testaments in our backpacks and put them in the mailboxes," said Maryam. After finishing each area, they would draw a cross on the map and pray for that area.

Maryam and Marziyeh's evangelism efforts came to a screeching halt when the police discovered what they were doing and arrested them. It wasn't long after their imprisonment in Iran's infamous Evin Prison that Maryam and Marziyeh began to receive letters. The letters, over 7,500 of them in all, were sent to them by fellow believers all around the world—individual men, women, and children who each took a couple minutes to write a few words of encouragement to two young women imprisoned for their faith in Iran.

Inspiring, but did the letters even get through to Maryam and Marziyeh?

Actually, they didn't. Maryam and Marziyeh weren't allowed to read a single one of the thousands of letters sent to them. Instead, the Iranian judge made the guards read the letters. As the guards read letter after letter, they began to treat Maryam and Marziyeh with the understanding that the world was watching their actions—that people cared what became of Maryam and Marziyeh. The guards even became curious about the Bible verses written in the letters and would come to Maryam and Marziyeh to ask for explanations.

Maryam and Marziyeh told ICC that they believe the letters helped to protect them from physical torture, and it certainly encouraged them

to know that believers all around the world were, in their words, "standing with us in that battle, and [letting us] know we were not alone."

The young women were released in November, 2008 and currently reside in the United States, but other brothers and sisters remain in prison all around the world. They face the daily terror of guards not held accountable for their actions, the loneliness and isolation of dark prison cells, and little to no access to the encouragement of the church body.

Want the opportunity to make a tangible difference in the life of someone in prison for their Christian faith? Join ICC and others around the world in writing letters of encouragement, and multiply your efforts by mobilizing those around you to do the same! Go to https://persecution.kindful.com/register/letter-writing-request?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=filling%20out%20this%20form&utm_campaign=2020-01-22%20Wednesday%20Email to get your letter writing kit. Follow the letter writing guidelines.

Together, let's extend our hand to our Christian brothers and sisters in prison.

Your small effort will turn on the light in their cells and get them better treatment and greatly encourage them.

* * * *

*"For I was in prison and you came to me.'
Then the righteous will answer him, saying...,
'Lord, when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ...*

'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Matthew 25:35-40 (ESV)

Minute for Mission

February 23, 2020

Hope Clinic

Doug Campbell, Executive Director of Hope Clinic, will be speaking about ways Hope Clinic serves the community.

Praying for the World

Christian Woman Blinded by Husband

icommittoprayer.com
January 23, 2020 | Nepal

After Mamta became a Christian, in 2010, she was fired from her job, and her husband demanded that she renounce her faith and stop going to church. But Mamta could not abandon Jesus Christ. Then, one day, her husband beat her so badly that she lost vision in her right eye. When he later left her and remarried, Mamta and her son moved in with her Hindu parents. They blame Mamta for not obeying her husband, and they won't allow her to take her son to church. Instead, they are raising him as a Hindu. Mamta wants to live on her own so she can teach her son about Jesus. Pray that her parents will come to know Christ, and pray for the Holy Spirit's work in her son's life as well. Pray for Mamta's spiritual growth.

* * * * *

Muslim- "Jesus Is Proud of You"

icommittoprayer.com
January 09, 2020 | Algeria

As authorities in Algeria move to shut down long-established churches, a young Muslim man left a surprising note on the door of one of the sealed church buildings. The note included these words of encouragement: "To close a church is something unacceptable and is a pathetic superstition. It is for this reason that I stand with you in your noble and just fight. I applaud each Christian for being committed to their religion since being a Christian in our society requires sacrifices. You are Christians even though society scorns you, even though sometimes your family does too. I am sure that Jesus is proud of you because at times you must lay aside the things that are important to you in order to follow his path. All my respect for all of you." Thank God that the testimonies of Algerian Christians are being witnessed by local Muslims. Pray that Algerian Christians will remain strong in faith despite the authorities' campaign to close churches.

Session Notes

- ✝ The stated Session meeting of January 18, 2020 was cancelled due to inclement weather. Session held a called meeting on the morning of Sunday, January 19, 2020 for the purpose of examining and approving Heather Sedlak as a ruling elder.
- ✝ It was our joy to ordain and install Heather during the worship service Sunday, January 19, 2020. Heather will be serving a three year term on Session.
- ✝ Next stated session meeting is February 29, 2020 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Norma's house.

"Friends In Deed"

Volunteer

Friends In Deed is always in need of volunteers. If you think you might be interested in helping out or would like more information, Call: 734-485-7658 or email: office@FriendsInDeedMI.org.

Give of Your Time!

Biblical or Theological Questions

Do you have any questions about the Bible, the Christian religion, or Presbyterian doctrine?

Pastor Keith will answer questions each month. You can send them in via email to keithcornfield8@gmail.com or calvary2@gmail.com.

Calvary on the Internet

Be sure to check out Calvary Presbyterian's website (www.calvary2.com), which has our newsletter, photos, prayer link, sermons posted in text and audio; as well as our vision statement, beliefs, and core values. Also, please visit our Facebook page which has previews of upcoming Calvary events and sermons. Our website and Facebook page are intended to reach out to those looking for a new church; and also to keep Calvary members and friends "in the loop" when they are unable to attend.

Hope Clinic

The Hope Clinic is expanding their meal program to include two weekday dinners on Monday and Thursday at 5:00. They are looking for volunteers to come once a month and serve those meals to our neighbors in need. If you are interested in this recurring service role, please contact amast@thehopeclinic.org

Thank you from First Step

Dear Pastor Keith and Friends at Calvary Presbyterian Church,

As 2019 comes to a close, we would like to reflect on the immense gratitude we have for our and all of our supporters. First Step would not be able to reach as many survivors as we do without the help of our donors, volunteers, and other supporters. Your gift will help us ring in the New Year as a stronger agency than ever before, and allow us to begin 2020 ready to fight for our vision of peaceful families and safe communities.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for your generous donation. We received your generous donation to domestic violence help and th ARK donation on December 6, 2019. Your support will allow us to continue to provide counselling, emergency shelter, legal advocacy, and many other services at no charge to victims of domestic and sexual assault throughout Wayne County.

With your donation, survivors know that they have someone on their side, rooting for their full recovery. Everyone here at First Step is grateful that among the many worthy organizations working to improve quality of life for people in need, you have chosen to invest in us and our program.

You are making a difference in the lives of the adults and children we serve. Thank you for being part of our movement to end violence.

With gratitude,

Lori Kitchen-Buschel, Executive Director

Building Reminders

If you are last to leave the building please...

- *make sure the lights are off
 - all of the windows are closed
 - tables and counters are washed
 - sanctuary doors are to be closed when the heat may be on.
 - **the heat is turned down
 - double-check that ALL doors are locked and latched
 - the floor is vacuumed
- * The security lights that are on the wall in the hallway run on a timer. No need to turn those off at night.
- ** The only thermostat that is meant to be adjusted (up or down) is the one inside the Fellowship hall.

Thank you!

Coffee, Tea and Conversation

If you find it in your heart to have a ministry of cleaning up afterwards, do it. Do it any Sunday it's on your heart. You don't have to decide ahead of time. You can bring goodies anytime too.

VISION STATEMENT

"To grow in Jesus Christ together and share His love and hope with our neighborhood and world".

V	Christ-centered
C	Spirit-led
a	Biblically-grounded
O	
I	
r	Acceptance
u	Freedom
e	Simplicity
e	
s	

Thank You from Pittsfield

Dear Pastor Cornfield,

We received your gracious donation of gloves, mittens, and hats for our children at Pittsfield. Your generous heart will help our "Penguins" stay warm during the wintry season.

Many, many thanks,
Melita A. & Pittsfield

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Pastor's Corner

(Continued from page 1)

Other Ways Calvary Shares God's Love and Hope through the Internet

Preaching and Teaching

- Sermons on the Calvary website in text and audio (for traveling/homebound members, and for those considering attending Calvary).
- Calvary's core values, vision statement, beliefs, and newsletters are also on website.

Giving and Stewardship

- Please check our Calvary's new giving page on our website!
- Calvary just added a secure online giving link through "Tithe.ly"—allowing donations to be made electronically: either to our general fund; or to our building fund (for major repairs and improvements).
- Our giving link has no monthly cost to the church, and allows for one-time or recurring donations.

Social Media

- Sermon previews are posted weekly on the Calvary Facebook page. Calvary events are listed on Facebook and online local newspapers.

In Christ,

Pastor Keith

Contributions Wanted

You can submit an original poem, an inspirational story you've found (with appropriate attribution), a personal reflection or testimony, a story about service in the community, etc.

Retirement

It was with a lot of prayer and pondering to decide when it was time to retire. Well, the decision has been made and my retirement notice has been turned in. My final day at Calvary will be May 8, 2020 (unless a replacement is found sooner).

I have worked here for over ten years and have enjoyed my time here at Calvary. I will miss everyone. You welcomed me as one of your own.

Being a part of the Women's Bible Study has been fun and educational and I hope to continue attending. So it's not a total goodbye.

May the Lord bless you and Calvary in everything you do. You are small but mighty Church.

In Christ,

Jan Fleming, Office Manager

Family Life Services Come and See Volunteer Training & Service Day

Saturday, February 1st

9:00 am to 12:00 pm

840 Maus Ave in Ypsilanti

Learn about new and ongoing pro-life volunteer opportunities. No commitment or prior experience is needed.

Monthly Volunteer Service Day

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Work with other one-time volunteers to finish projects like: furniture rearranging, material goods organizing & crafting.

Please call: 734.434.3088 or text:
734.985.0748 with questions.

Compassion International Sponsor Child, Maicor

Please pray for Maicor and his family. If you would like to correspond with him, information is on the bulletin board or you may contact Jan at calvarya2@gmail.com.

Take a look at the bulletin board and see his drawings.

Library Notes

A reminder about our library - Come and visit our church library - Look at the books on the shelves and also at the many categories our books cover. Did you know there are testimonies to read from past and present people of Calvary? Those are in binders on the bottom shelf on the north wall. There devotionals, research informational books, there are even photo albums from past events here at Calvary.



Love in Action

Pay It Forward

“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that’s truly life.” 1 Timothy 6:18-19 (NIV)

By now most of us have seen the McDonald commercial on T.V. that describes ‘paying it forward’. When a customer pays for an order in the take out lane the customer also pays for the order of the person behind him. So when that person picks up his food he doesn’t have to pay for it.

My reaction to that was, what a kind deed for someone to do and an unexpected happy surprise for the recipient. We don’t expect such kindness in our busy world. It gives you a warm inner glow. We all need this encouragement from time to time. Good deeds and kindness are called ‘treasures’ in the Bible that are worthwhile and will be a benefit to us in the future. In scripture the Lord tells us more than once to interact with others in affirming and supportive ways. I’m sure each of us can think of speech or deeds that will build others up. God loves us and we’re all important in His sight. But He also wants us to give importance and esteem to our neighbors and others.

Generously Serving a Generous God Everything but the Angel

(Adapted from Stewardship)

It is said that long ago a great sculptor unveiled his latest work to a large crowd. With a flourish he swept off the cover, revealing an angel, which would be one of many in the church where it was to be placed. But what an angel! There was no wind in the sculptor’s shop, yet this angel’s wings seemed to be spreading to take flight. Marble can neither speak nor move, yet this angel’s mouth appeared to bless, its hands to fold in prayer.

The audience burst into applause. One person dared to ask, “How did you do it?” The sculptor said, “I simply carved away everything except the angel.”

“Everything except the angel” ... it seems like a joke, but it’s not. Great sculptors have this gift, to see the figure that already exists within the material, and then use tools to remove what is extra, freeing the masterpiece.

As the Creator, God is the great Artist. Also, God sees all the art that has ever been, and ever will be. By commanding us to be stewards, God tells us to become artists too, of our own souls.

Instead of a hammer and chisel, our tool is giving. Every time we give money to the church, it’s like carving away a bit of “marble” to reveal more of our Christian nature. Every hour helping in a food pantry, teaching Sunday school, singing in a choir, and so on, does the same.

Our hands may lack the sculptor’s skill, but through Christian stewardship, we can make our lives more beautiful than any statue.

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 26th, 7:00 pm

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent, the season that leads up to Holy Week and Easter.

“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?” (Romans 10:14)