



## CHRISTMAS AT CALVARY

### **Worship Ministry Christmas Celebration**

#### *Immanuel, God with Us*

Come hear the message of the Word made flesh – God with us. Jesus came into our world to comfort us, free us, redeem us, and save us. Service led by the Calvary Worship Ministry includes Worship Chorale, Kids Choir, Soloists, Orchestra, and Worship Band.

#### **Saturday, December 1, 7 PM**

Refreshments following the Saturday evening service.  
*Childcare provided for infants through kindergarten.*

#### **Sunday, December 2, 9 & 10:30 AM**

*Childcare provided for infants through kindergarten.*

### **Christmas Eve Services**

#### *Candlelight Services*

#### **Monday, December 24, 1:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm**

Come celebrate the birth of our Savior.

*Childcare provided for infants through kindergarten.*

**Church Office:** Closed Dec. 24 – Jan. 1

## CALVARY NEWS

### **Prayer Walk**

December 1. Meet at 9 am in the University Square building in front of Chester's for hot cocoa and treats. Walk through the skyways and subways to pray for Rochester, health professionals, and the 1.8 million annual visitors to Rochester.

### **Weather Cancellations**

For weekday events, we generally follow this guideline: If school is closed, the event is cancelled. For SUNDAYS, we rarely cancel services, but will cancel them if MnDOT has "Travel Not Advised" on major roads in the Rochester area. In that case, notification will be by 6:00 a.m. on Sunday via 1) an all-church email, and 2) publication on KTTC at their website.

### **Love Gifts**

Starting the beginning of December, the Leadership Board will make Love Gift envelopes available in church mailboxes and at the Welcome Desk. We are inviting the church family to contribute through the end of the year to a special gift to be given to our pastors and staff in January.

### **Salvation Army Bell Ringers**

Ring the Christmas Bells at the Salvation Army Kettle.

Register to ring alone or bring your family or group for one of our most important practical outreach opportunities of the holiday season. One hour shifts, indoor and outdoor available.

Register at [www.calvaryefc.org](http://www.calvaryefc.org).

### **Operation Christmas Child**

Calvary donated 597 gift filled shoeboxes that have been sent to needy children around the world. In total, the Calvary collection center received from southeastern Minnesota 12, 264 shoeboxes! It takes three semi trucks to cart them off. Thank you to everyone who packed a shoebox gift and those who helped pack the cartons!

### **Refugee Care Ministry Update**

God has brought three new refugee families to Calvary this year. We are anticipating the arrival soon of the newest family and their four children. They have also spent many years in a refugee camp in Kenya and are friends of three other families who are now part of Calvary. Please go to Calvary's website <https://www.calvaryefc.org/serve/refugee-care> to "meet" these families. Practical and specific ways you can be of help are listed. Questions? Contact Sharon Bjerkaas at [refugeecare@calvaryefc.org](mailto:refugeecare@calvaryefc.org) or 507-282-9850.

### **Love Without Boundaries**

Calvary is hosting a 3-year old Ugandan girl, her mom, and translator thru an organization called Love Without Boundaries through Dec 10. Hosts, Cedric and Stephani Bernier, welcome assistance with Clinic appts, Costco, Trader Joe's, and Chipotle gift cards or cash, Mayo meal cards, visits, and prayer. See the church website for more details or contact Dianne Orth, [orth.dianne@gmail.com](mailto:orth.dianne@gmail.com).

## FAMILY MINISTRY

### **December Family Ministry Scheduling**

For the Christmas holiday, we WILL NOT have programming on the following days:

Wednesdays: **December 19 and 26**  
(Resuming programming on January 2)

Sundays: **December 23 and 30**  
(Grades 1-12, Kings Kids not meeting; Kindergarten and below still have programming.)

### **Preschool Christmas Program**

Sunday, **December 9**, Tadpoles, Polliwogs, Frogs, and Kindergartners will be singing at the beginning of both services.

### **Winter "Church-Family" Camp Weekend Cancelled**

Due to lack of interest, we have cancelled our event at Camp Victory in January. If you were thinking of attending, Brian would love to hear your thoughts to plan for future events.

## Dynamic Partnerships

Are you looking for a partner in parenting? Or just someone you can bounce ideas off of? Let's talk about our parenting discipleship program called Dynamic Partnerships! Contact Brian at [bmartin@calvaryefc.org](mailto:bmartin@calvaryefc.org).

## Awana

Dec. 5 - Snowman Night, dress in white  
Dec. 12 - Christmas Party and Store  
Dec. 19 - No Awana  
Dec. 26 - No Awana  
Jan. 2 - Sharing Night

## WORSHIP

### Worship Team

Join the Worship Team this winter! We need singers, guitarists, keyboard players, and drummers. "O magnify the Lord with me. Let us exalt His name together!" Contact Pastor Dan at [dlimkeman@calvaryefc.org](mailto:dlimkeman@calvaryefc.org).

### Calvary Orchestra and Brass Ensemble

Play a band or orchestral instrument? Consider playing in our brass ensemble or orchestra. Ages 9<sup>th</sup> Grade and up. "Praise Him with instruments." Contact Pastor Dan Limkeman at [dlimkeman@calvaryefc.org](mailto:dlimkeman@calvaryefc.org).

### Technical Arts Team

We need sound, projection, lighting, and video, "So the Word can be seen and heard." Interested in serving behind the scenes? We will train you. Contact Joel at [jminchinton@calvaryefc.org](mailto:jminchinton@calvaryefc.org).

### Usher Ministry Team

Consider serving on one of our Usher Ministry Teams. Ushering ministry is open to men and women ages 14 and up. This is also a great ministry for couples or families to serve in together. We need you! Contact Eric at [eric\\_andringa@hotmail.com](mailto:eric_andringa@hotmail.com).

### Upcoming Worship Ministry Dates

**December 1&2**, Worship Ministry Christmas Celebration  
Saturday, December 1, 7 pm  
Sunday, December 2, 9 am & 10:30 am

**December 24**, Christmas Eve Candlelight Services  
1:30 pm, 3:30 pm, 5:30 pm

**January 6**, Minnesota Adult and Teen Challenge Choir

**January 13**, Communion

## CARE GROUPS

### Single Adult Fellowship (55 plus)

Single Adult fellowship (will meet Sunday December 2, 4-6 pm in the Fireside room at Calvary. Celebrate Christmas with us and enjoy games and fellowship. Bring an hors d'oeuvre to share and a white elephant gift if you would like to participate in the gift exchange. Contact Carol Siverling at 358-2417 or Nancy Monsen at 281-4152.

## Financial Peace University

Class will start Tuesday, January 8 (6:30-8pm) and meet for nine weeks. Childcare can be made available (please RSVP if needed). Course materials can be purchased (one per family) online or directly from Jay Homme. (Online cost is \$129, from church is \$93 while supplies last, scholarships to cover part of cost available – just inquire). Contact Jay Homme 507-202-1158. Online link: <https://fpu.com/1051777>.

## SENIORS PEP (age 55+)

### Christmas Party

Join us on Wednesday, December 5, 2018, in the church fellowship hall from 9:30-12:30. We will be have a devotion, sing Christmas carols, have a white elephant gift exchange and a catered buffet luncheon. Participation in the white elephant gift exchange is optional. The lunch will be catered by Canadian Honker. A donation of \$8.00/person is suggested. Please RSVP to Sharon at [rsland1971@gmail.com](mailto:rsland1971@gmail.com) or phone 507-288-0592. Come and enjoy the fellowship!

## WOMEN

### Renovaré

Spring session will begin on January 17. A new Bible study book will be starting. Check the website for more details as January approaches. Any questions regarding Renovaré should be directed to Stephanie Conkright at [garstepmn@q.com](mailto:garstepmn@q.com) or 507-990-0923.

## MEN

### December Men's Breakfast

Saturday, December 8, 8-9:15 am. Calvary Fellowship Hall. A Tex-Mex Breakfast will be served at 8:00 am. Theme: *Impacting the Next Generation*. Contact Matt Scheckel at [mattscheckel@gmail.com](mailto:mattscheckel@gmail.com) to sign up.

## OUTREACH/COMMUNITY

### Transform Ideas Rochester

*Awakening the Church to Mental Health.*

Thursday, Nov. 29, 7-9 pm. This TED-talk style event will feature three local speakers sharing a faith filled response to mental illness and recovery, calling the Church to care for people and their families who are struggling with common mental health concerns. Learn how the Church can best offer hope and support to someone with mental health issues. There will be an audience Q&A session with the speakers. Held at Rochester Covenant Church 4950 -31<sup>st</sup> Ave NW. FREE but register at [transformmn.org/events](http://transformmn.org/events) to reserve your place.

### Compassion Counseling Center (CCC)

CCC will be closed December 20 & 27.

Dealing with difficult times and issues can be overwhelming, especially if you feel like you are dealing with them alone. If you or someone you know is ready for positive change visit [www.CompassionCounseling.org](http://www.CompassionCounseling.org), or call 507-208-8822.

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder:  
and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6*