

**Our Church's Mission:**

*"To glorify God by praying,  
worshiping and reaching  
People for Christ, ministering to  
the needs of all, providing  
opportunities for people to  
grow in Christ and enjoying the  
fellowship with one another."*

**"The Calvary Connection"**

Sunday December 10, 2017

Volume 58

Week 6

**A Weekly Publication of**

Calvary Baptist Church

320 N. Sheridan

Valley Center, Kansas 67147

(316) 755-2343

[www.CalvaryVC.org](http://www.CalvaryVC.org)

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2017  
WEEK OF PRAYER  
— for —  
INTERNATIONAL  
MISSIONS

December 3-10

Church's financial goal for this  
offering:

\$6,250.00

Too big of a goal for us, but not too  
big for God!

Pray, believe, and give!

More than \$ 2,870.00 has been  
provided to date for this year's goal.

Together, this will soon be a reality!

## TREE HOUSE NEEDS:

Formula (**blue/orange** label) &  
any winter type clothes for  
the coming cold weather.



Dir: ANNNIE WELLS  
SS Hour: Linda Nutter

12/10: Wells  
12/17: Moseleys  
12/24: Family Day!  
12/31: Davidsons

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

TONIGHT: Calvary Choir presents the Singing Christmas Tree/Fellowship 7:00 PM

Dec. 17: Our Wonderful Children's Musical: "A Christmas to Believe In": AM Worship

Dec. 18: Upward practices begin

Dec. 19: Women on Mission to sing @ Sedgwick Manor/No regular meeting this month

Dec. 24: Regular: Church: 9:30 AM/SS: 11:00 AM & Christmas Eve service: 6:00-7:00 PM

Dec. 25: Happy Birthday, Jesus! Merry Christmas, Calvary family!

**100 SPAGHETTI/SAUCE** packages are due to the boxes in the hall by TONIGHT to be delivered to Grace in the morning to be organized for deacons to box up/take to distribute on Dec. 13 at 9:00 AM @ Grace. WE NEED A LOT MORE! Thanks! See deacons/office with the name of one in need of a box this year. We are glad to minister in His name.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** can be posted on the board for the church family or just place individual ones in the name slots. Thanks for sharing His love!

**CHILDREN'S CHURCH** kids are selling their wonderful homemade ornaments for the Lottie Moon Christmas offering! Buy some from their display! Thanks!



## **OUR KNOWN BABIES COMING:**

Justin & Stacie Hingst Crowley, Aron & Hannah Cress Hart

**Prayers:** unspoken, the salvation of loved ones, Pastors Michael, Jerry, Charley, deacons, trustees/volunteers, our wonderful country/troops, President Trump/Vice President Pence, the persecution of all Christians

## ***CURRENT PRAYER NEEDS:***

Pastor Neal Alford, Marie Clemence, Carol Cowel, Loyd Dredge, Carolyn Fry, Baby Isaac Holmes, Lana Moler, Mitch/Alta Parker, Noel Willis, those still recovering, having/awaiting test results-surgeries, with chronic conditions, traveling & seeking employment

## ***ONGOING PRAYER NEEDS: PLEASE CALL TO UPDATE OFFICE!***

Pastors Neal/Claudie Alford, Alexis Blackburn, Mike Clifton, Rachel Davidson, Loyd Dredge, Hunter Erwin, Clarissa Flora, Carolyn Fry, Vivian Green, Dean Graves, Karen Holt's parents, Kay Lacy's brother & sister-in-law, Sarah Lockard, Lon Matson, Sherry Miller's aunt/parents, Jennifer Periman's dad, Alta/Mitch Parker, Pastor Jason Ramsey, Jimmy Runyan's dad, Mark Spencer's brother-Don, Karin Tucker, Gayle Willis' brother & those with loved ones in need of prayer

## ***THOSE SERVING OUR COUNTRY:***

All the men/women who serve in the armed forces, law enforcement and first responders: Fire/EMS.

## ***CANCER:***

Dredge's son-in-law, Hawkins' niece, Holt's daughter-in law's dad, Matson's daughter-in-law-Debbie, Fred Otte, Ed Randall's sister & Chip Frieze's mother-in-law-Cheryl, Lana Moler, Pat Safarik's cousin-Ron, Sisler friend-Joe, Marsha Varbel, LaDona Crump Wege

## ***NOTICES:***

**Our YOUTH** leadership team meets today. Thanks to Steve L & team for planning the flag football game last week! It was great fun for all attending!

**RENTAL!** Our 2 bedroom at 709 is ready to rent for \$500 a month plus the deposit. Please call Sharon in the office for details &/or schedule a time to see it. Please pray for Christian renters! We will list in the newspaper next week if no takers from our own. Call!

**UPWARD! 100 days of prayer!** See Rachel D or Jen L for prayer guides/bracelets As the kids play, we will pray! What a great outreach ministry!

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR** will share "A Christmas to Believe In" next Sun. morning Dec. 17. Practices are during Children's church & Salt & Light. **DRESS REHEARSALS:** This Wed. from 6:30-8:00 PM & this Sat. from 9:00-10:00 AM. See Dir., PAIGE CRESS, (316) 214-5397 with questions. Invite your friends, neighbors & family!

Get **TICKETS** to give as you invite to the "Singing Tree" tonight or just come! Take lots of **COOKIES** to the kitchen for the fellowship following! **THANKS** to each for already sharing for last night's wonderful presentation.



When people give a “*first fruit offering*” we pour the 1<sup>st</sup> twenty cents of each dollar into the work of missions.

The following story shares the outcome of our mission giving. Enjoy & be inspired with the difference your giving makes.

**(EUROPE) IMB worker JACKIE LEWIS** works with gypsy kids from the slums, orphanages & those she sees digging through dumpsters. She shares Bible stories with them & loves seeing them uncover something new in Scripture. Jackie also feels burdened to meet families – to sit in their homes & talk about family, culture & Bible stories. God responded to that burden with Andre & his wife, Stanka. As she got to know this family, she learned about their passion to reach their people with the Gospel. Pray God uses gifts through the Cooperative Program to help Jackie teach this couple about the Great Commission & how God uses the least expected people for His glory!

***PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:*** Brian/Danyel Warne-Mexico, Robbie/Gail Nutter-K-State Christian Challenge, Matt/Jessica Maestas-NAMB, David/Grace Fread-Brazil, Jonathan/Isana Fread, Jon/Hope Fread Rodriques and Eliezer/Kelly Fread Steffens-Asia Pacific.

***Valley Center Ministerial Alliance and the Community Food Bank*** Offers assistance at Grace Connections Church 300 N. Ash in Valley Center (316) 755-1855 from 9:00-1:00 PM & 1:00-3:00 PM Tuesday through Friday.



**December 2017**

Average AM Attendance	140
Average SS. Attendance	121
Average PM Attendance	66
Average Mid-Week Attendance	76
<b>“First Fruit Offerings”</b> for this week	<b>\$ 6,779.00</b>
“CIF” for this week	\$450.00
“World Mission Offering” for this week	\$184.00

**By the Year – October 1, 2017 – September 30, 2018**

Average AM Attendance	138	Average SS Attendance	117
Average PM Attendance	45	Average Mid-Week	75
<b>“First Fruit Offerings”</b> provided to date			<b>\$ 58,876.39</b>
“Capital Improvement Fund” (CIF) provided to date			\$2,010.00
“World Mission Offerings” provided to date			\$ 5,124.00

**Updates on Calvary’s  
“Capital Improvement Fund” (CIF):**



CIF beginning balance	77,838.86
CIF recent gifts : 12-3-2017	450.00
CIF gifts provided to date + Interest	19,436.49
CIF disbursements: <b>Digital Sign</b>	- 27,439.59
CIF disbursements: <b>Carpet</b>	- <u>21,720.17</u>
CIF Current Balance	48,115.59

In the more than 21 months we’ve actively promoted CIF, we’ve seen God providing through His people; average weekly gifts of a little over \$194.00 and average monthly gifts of slightly more than \$824.00. Thanks for providing this consistent support. **We currently have structural foundational issues to address. In the spring we’ll have air conditioning and heating units to replace, and in the future aging flat roofs to replace, and playground equipment to upgrade.** Thanks for being visionary when it comes to adequately funding these various capital improvement needs!

## CONNECT

with an Open Heart

*Mark 12:29-31*



## GROW

in Body, Mind & Spirit

*Romans 12:2*



## SERVE

with Willing Hands

*1 Peter 4:10-11*



## GO

with Ready Feet

*Matthew 28:19-20*



## SUNDAY:

Morning Worship	9:30 AM
Children's Church	9:30 AM
Sunday School	11:00 AM
Youth Team meeting (rescheduled from last week)	Noon
Deacons meeting (rescheduled from last week)	4:00 PM
Drama/Choir practice	
Evening Worship: Presentation of the Singing Christmas Tree!	7:00 PM
Cookie Fellowship following	

## TUESDAY:

Bible Club at West after school

## WEDNESDAY:

Kids: Mission Friends and Salt & Light	6:30-8:00 PM
Children's Musical dress rehearsal	6:30-8:00 PM
Youth: United	6:30-8:00 PM
Pastor's Bible study	6:30-8:00 PM

## THURSDAY:

AM Ladies Bible study party/Donna Hammons, 2001 W Evanston, W 10:30 AM

**SATURDAY:** Children's Christmas Musical dress rehearsal 9:00-10:00 AM

## ***From PASTOR JERRY - The Church's Work in Today's Culture!***

How the church respond to the wayward teachings about Christ in today's culture? This question will take several weeks to consider. This is week 21 of that study.

John 3:2 *"The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him."* (KJV)

As we approach Christmas, we hear the name Emmanuel applied to Jesus at church but seldom outside the walls of worship. The name means "God with us" which is frequently repulsive to the world. The world still has no room for a God who lives with them.

Nicodemus and the rest of the religious officials recognized the miraculous but when it came to responding in faith, a God who lived among them was not where they were willing to go. They wanted a king who would throw off the chains of the Roman occupation but they did not want a God whose very presence showed their sinfulness. The offer to throw off the chains of sin wasn't even on their wish list.

With Jesus in our lives, God is truly with us. Without Him, Christmas is just another day used by the world to increase the bottom line. "Don't bother us with a God who takes away sin," they say. "Make us wealthy with lots of commerce." Jesus came to us offering the free gift of salvation. There is no commerce in that – there is only love, hope and salvation. Who wants that? People who recognize their bondage to sin who want something better want that. Emmanuel! God with us. God in us. Is that what you want?

***In Him, Jerry***

## ***From PASTOR CHARLEY –***

Good morning everyone!

As we continue through our days as Christians, one thing is certain. We will face struggles. These struggles are the evidence of the fallen world in which we live.

As I have faced these struggles, God has put individuals in my life that have been a listening board. These individuals would not only listen, but they helped me realize I was not alone in dealing with struggles.

Better yet, the Bible states in Hebrews 4: 15-16, "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (ESV)

God Himself understands our struggles. As we walk through this life, let's lean on Him and rely on Him for the answers!

***I love you all, Pastor Charley***

## **PASTOR MICHAEL'S MUSINGS . . .**

Since it's our responsibility as His church to spread the Gospel, I pray each member of His body is taking seriously the opportunity we have to spread the Gospel by praying and then giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions. We have missionaries on the field today spreading the Gospel because prayers and offerings have been made in the past. We continue to support these missionaries now and into the future as we pray and give. Spreading the Gospel is a corporate effort undertaken by the body of Christ because He has commanded us to do so and even more because we love Him! Our prayers and offerings are viable ways to be about this work of spreading the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thanks for being a people who pray and give joyfully to accomplish the work Jesus has given us as His church.

Hearing the Holy Spirit is essential for individuals to live the Christ life! It's also true it's necessary for His church to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit as well. His voice is what provides us the consistency and unity we need to accomplish His plans and purposes for our existence as His church. His voice is the one telling us what we are to be and what we are to do as His ambassadors. We must train ourselves to hear His voice, and if hearing Him is important to us, we will train ourselves to hear and obey His voice. If it's not important, we'll not hear His voice and become a vessel of little usage, if any at all, because when we heard but refused to listen our hearts became hardened. Hebrews 3:7-19 speaks loudly concerning the issue of hearing God. It communicates clearly of a generation of God's people who refused to hear His voice and the consequences for choosing not to hear. Let's not be those people!

***Jesus loves us, Pastor Michael***