

CALVARY COURIER

March 2021

Council News

The Council met Monday, February 15. Chairman Steve Ver Meer began the meeting by reading a devotional written by R.C. Sproul on the topic of JOY. Based on Psalm 30:5b, Psalm 65:1, and Galatians 5:22. "One of God's most astounding gifts to us in Christ is that Christians can experience joy in difficult situations. Joy is the fruit of the Spirit promised to all those who place their faith in Jesus. Christians have a reason to rejoice and look to the future with genuine optimism, trusting that God and his promises will prevail."

The Council decided to make an adjustment to the mask policy. You are asked to continue to social distance and wear a mask while moving about the church building and during singing. Masks are optional while seated in the pew. Greeters and nursery services will be resumed beginning Sunday, March 7. The consensus was to maintain the current evening service format, at least through Sunday, May 2.

The pastors reported on their previous month's contacts and activities. Pastor Brad thanked the Council and congregation for a week of study-leave, during which he concentrated on preparing for a Lenten Series on the Book of Esther. He also presented the second of eleven Healthy Church Discernment topics for discussion. The questions centered around Kingdom Extension.

- A. Are we passionate about our community, nation and world with the Gospel?
- B. Are we engaged in the surrounding community?
- C. Do our members bear personal witness to their faith in Christ?

Members of the congregation are also challenged to reflect on each of these questions in terms of how they see Calvary and how they live out their own faith.

Pastor Sheldon is grateful that he is again allowed to visit members in senior living and care facilities. Pastor Nate reviewed the current Sunday School, Youth and Young Adult schedule. He also reported on Faith Formation Ministries. The name of Youth Unlimited has been replaced. He reported there will be no "Therefore Go" youth service projects this year. He will be checking into "Serve at Home" opportunities.

Marty Nikkel's request was approved to have a statement of his membership forwarded to The Lutheran Church of Hope of West Des Moines.

The 2021 General Synod of the Christian Reformed Church, that was scheduled to meet in June at Dordt University has been cancelled.

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Words of Thanks

Thank you Calvary Persons who contributed items to help Joshua Christian Academy your gifts were a great blessing.

Geneva Campus Tom Wolthuis (Iowa City)



Geneva Campus Ministry is an approved student organization that has been active at the University of Iowa since 1971. We are a community of students, faculty, and staff who seek to serve Jesus Christ on campus. Geneva is supported by the "Reformed" branch of Protestant Christianity, plus friends from many other denominations.

Sarah, class of 2020.

"Geneva has been such a blessing to me throughout my time in college. The lectures have challenged me both intellectually and spiritually, and the small group's focus on vocation has helped me in discerning God's callings for my life. It has also provided a great opportunity to build community with fellow Christians on campus, and I really appreciate that it has involved people of all different faith backgrounds and perspectives in meaningful discussions. I'm so thankful for this ministry in Iowa City."

Cary Christian Center

A bit about Cary: The story of Cary Christian Center began in 1971 with Dr. Peter Boelens, a pediatrician with a heart of missions and burden for serving the poor. He had become aware of the significant needs in the southern Mississippi Delta and was led to open a practice in the poorest area of the United States- serving Sharkey and Issaquena counties and areas of the surrounding counties. He knew that the infant mortality rate was the highest in the nation. He felt drawn to begin his work in rural Cary, Mississippi on Highway 61.

Cary and the Delta Lights go virtual: Though the current conditions make it so that Delta Lights must go virtual this year, we are grateful to take the time out to honor the community that has held us up during this time. This event will be a joyous time for us to honor those Delta Lights and look forward to a better year to come. The honorees for the evening were: Barbara Tolliver, Kay Lee, Don & Jean De Waard, & Natalie Perkins

The Calvary Memorial Fund

The Calvary Memorial Fund Committee would like to acknowledge the gifts received in 2020 in memory of Calvary's loved ones. The following gifts have been received: Ruth Mulder, Calvary Video Ministry; Phyllis Zylstra, Calvary Video Ministry; Richard Van Kooten, Calvary Video Ministry; Wilbur Veenstra, Calvary Video Ministry; Robert Beyer, Calvary Video Ministry; Beulah De Graaf, Calvary Memorial Garden; Bertha Schut, Calvary Memorial Garden; Mindy Veenstra, Calvary Memorial Garden; Marge Zondervan, Calvary Memorial Garden; Teresa Bultsma, Calvary Video Ministry; Arlene Vander Laan, Calvary Video Ministry; Hattie Van Wyk, World Renew; Jeanette Roose, Calvary Memorial Garden; Jeanette Jansen, Calvary Video Ministry; Duane Dingeman, Calvary Memorial Garden; Danny Dingeman, Calvary Video Ministry; and Dick Vander Laan, Calvary Video Ministry. \$4050.00 has been donated to the Memorial Fund in 2020. Please continue to pray for the families of these loved ones who have gone to glory.

The Calvary Memorial Fund was formed in 1995 for the purpose of giving members, friends and family an opportunity to give a memorial gift to special causes for Calvary Church in memory of their loved ones. Since its beginning, the Calvary Memorial Fund has received \$72,631.43 in memory of Calvary's loved ones.

Memorial gifts can be given at any time of the year. They may be given in memory of those loved ones who have died recently or in the past. The currently approved projects for the memorial fund are: Missions, Building and Building Expansion, Building Remodeling and Furnishings, Church Library, Church Music Department, Church Kitchen, Church Vehicle, Video Ministry, and Calvary Memorial Garden. The Memorial Team is thankful for the many gifts that we have received in memory of Calvary's family members and friends. If you have questions regarding the Calvary Memorial Fund, please contact Christy Van Zee, Nathan Dockter, Goldie Dingeman or David Roose.



March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3		5	6
			Lilburn Jansen* Leslie Steinkamp Adrian Vos	Carol Beyer Randy Nugteren Cynthia Van Wyk Lee Veldhuizen	Connie Roozeboom	Katie Miller
Kipp Ulferts		9	10	11	12	13
		Michelle Kelderman Aaron Sandbulte			Alexis De Vries Lee Roose Delmer Van Kooten *	Wilma Ryken *
Leasa Jansen Mary Veenstra Levi Vermeer	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Libby Te Grotenhuis	Ivan Mulder*		Joyce Nikkel* Mark Vander Schel Steve Ver Meer	Drew Van Wyngarden David Holdsworth Cornie Vander Wilt	Esther Van Weelden
Sarah Roose	22	23	24	25	26	27
	Chloe Huisman	Karen Branderhorst	Zach De Vries Fran Poortinga	Jerry Bandstra		Jeremiah Schutte Mya Huisman
Emma Van Wyngarden Bev Van Zee	29	30	31			
	Betty Bruxvoort*	Paul Hofman Annabell Clendenen				