



The Calvary Connection

Calvary Presbyterian Church, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 971-3121 FAX: (734) 780-7110

Newsletter, Volume 50, No. 01. January 2022

Note: Calvary will be exclusively online for worship on 1/9/22 and 1/16/22 (possibly through January)

Pastor's Corner and Stewardship Update: "God's Riches in Glory"

"And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus"
(Philippians 4:19).

Dear Calvary Members and Friends:

Normally I do the financial/stewardship update as a separate article, but this month I felt led to combine it with the pastor's corner. As you know, we entered December with an \$8,000 net income deficit—an amount so large it seemed insurmountable through human eyes. I just learned from our office manager Maria, that we received well over \$20,000 in tithes, offerings, and related donations in December—more than \$13,000 over what was budgeted for the month. As a result, not only has our net income deficit for 2021 been wiped out; we are ending the year with a net income surplus of approximately \$6,700!

What was insurmountable by sight; was both possible and expectable through faith; for as the Apostle Paul teaches, God will supply the needs of His faithful beyond our expectations—through the riches in glory of His Son Christ Jesus. I invite us to keep in mind this wonderful victory—which has been accomplished through God's grace and the prayers and generosity of each one of you. We have more challenges ahead in 2022: On the financial end, we will be spending several thousand dollars in asbestos surveying and mediation (plus flooring replacement) —an amount beyond what we currently have in our building fund. While we are grateful that the air samples were all good and building occupancy has been determined to be safe; the surveys and repairs will ensure our compliance with OSHA requirements and make our building even healthier.

Let us trust that God will once again meet this need according to His riches in glory. In the same way, we trust that the Lord will continue to bring us safely through this time of pandemic; that He will continue to guide us in our mission and ministry; that He will direct us in the care of the building and grounds which He has entrusted to us; that He will continue to empower us in our preaching, teaching, and witness, that we may lead the lost to salvation; and revive those among us who are already saved—that we may continue to carry out our vision—to grow in Jesus Christ together; and to share His love and hope with our neighborhood and world.

One final note: In order to fully realize and appreciate God's riches in glory; we must stop trying to live the Christian life in our own strength; and instead live each day—as individuals, families, and as a community of faith—in the day-by-day power and direction of the Holy Spirit. As we live each day in God's strength rather than our own—God shall take away our anxieties; and make our paths straight in every area of life.

In Christ,
Pastor Keith

How to Donate to Calvary Presbyterian



- First, you may place your tithe/offering in the offering box on the ushers' table (near the sanctuary entrance) before or after worship; or you may come forward to put it in the offering box during the prayer of dedication. (We do not pass an offering plate.)
- Second, you may mail your check. Our address is: Calvary Presbyterian Church, 2727 Fernwood Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.
- Third, you may make a donation online on our church website. You can make a one-time donation, or "set in and forget it" so that your donation will be paid on a recurring basis: Here is the direct link: <https://www.calvarya2.com/donate>

Upcoming Events

New Member Exploration Classes

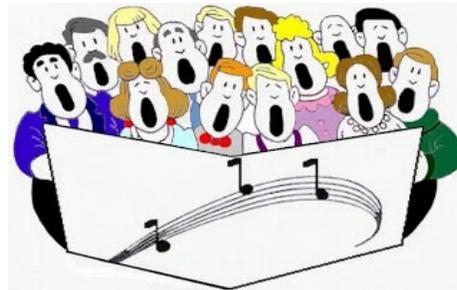
Have you been thinking and praying about the possibility of joining Calvary Presbyterian? If so, you are invited to sign up for our New Member Exploration classes which will be held the first three Sundays in March 2022 during Live Wire time (11:30 to 12:30). The classes cover the biblical basis and responsibilities of church membership, the basics of what it means to be a Presbyterian, and also mission and stewardship. If you feel led to sign up, let Pastor Keith know; or you may call Maria in the church office. The classes do not obligate anyone to join—they simply provide the necessary information to make a prayerful decision. One person has signed up already!

Choir and Praise Team

Rehearsal schedule for January:

Praise Team	January 2 nd , 9 a.m.
Choir	January 9 th , 9 a.m.
Praise Team	January 16 th , 9 a.m.
Choir	January 23 rd , 9 a.m.

Choir performs January 23rd

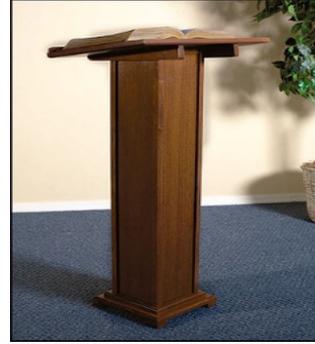


Art Classes

As part of congregational care and community outreach, Sharon Backues is planning to offer a variety of two-hour art classes. She has a sign-up sheet for those who are interested. She can be reached at backues@charter.net.

Here is the list of lectors in January.

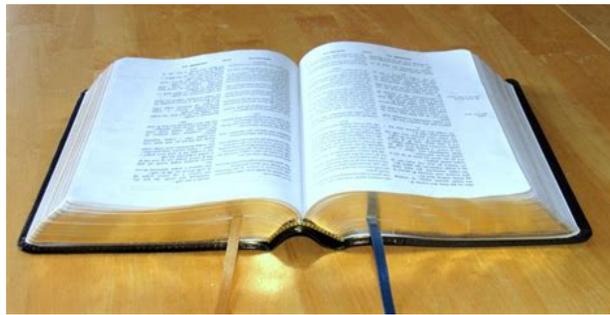
January 2nd -----Kay Hartung
 January 9th -----Sharon Backues
 January 16th -----Norma Scheider
 January 23rd -----Dawn Cornfield
 January 30th -----Claudia Doudney



Women's Bible Study Dates for January

Thursday 13th.....1:00 p.m.
 Thursday 27th.....1:00 p.m.

We are studying the book of Acts



Miscellaneous Announcements and Reports

Session Notes

Dear All:

1. Sunday December 5th, immediately after worship, we had a congregational meeting for the election of ruling elders, and at-large (non-session) nominating committee members. Additionally, we also had a follow up discussion on the pastor's salary package for 2022—in light of the Detroit Presbytery personnel policy change (there was an initial discussion at the 12/12/21 church gathering, and we prayerfully responded to the expressed concerns of church members in order to reduce the financial impact).
2. Session: There was a called session meeting immediately after the congregational meeting on December 5th, to finalize the pastor's salary package—and a budget meeting on December 11th at 10 a.m.

In Christ,
 Pastor Keith

The next Stated Session meeting is scheduled for Saturday, January 15, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.

Staff and volunteer vacations, work schedules and absences, with coverage:

Adrienne: Will be out of town: Saturday February 5th to Sunday February 20th. June will determine coverage needs (Oscar may be asked if desired.)

Maria: Will be on vacation the week of February 14th. Jan Fleming will substitute.

Maria’s new temporary office hours:

Tuesday/Thursday - 9am-2:30 p.m.

Wednesday/Friday - 8:30am to 11 a.m.

Thank You Notes



We received thank you notes from both Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries and First Step for our donations to them last month.



Jean Cochran reports:

Our donation is really appreciated. With AAPS on virtual learning I am sure the office manager at Pittsfield will distribute the gloves and hats to those students most in need. Generally, the noon hour supervisors hand them out in case gloves are really wet, or because child does not own any and cannot go outside at recess without any covering.

The count is eighteen pairs of gloves and four hats that I will drop off at Pittsfield soon.

Foundations Preschool Update



The staff and families at Foundations Preschool thank you all very much. Covid protocol restricted our Christmas gift donations to gift cards. These gift cards were then given to individual families by the school staff.

Thank you for helping me continue serving this long-established ministry.

Kay Hartung

Alpha House Thank You Note:

Thank you for recent support!

Your contribution during this difficult time helps the families who come to Alpha House receive the support needed when seeking shelter and when they begin to search for permanent housing.

**Building and Grounds Updates**

Dear Calvary Members and Friends:

In the interest of transparency, we would like to let you know that Greene Environmental Services performed asbestos testing in the church building on 12/14/21. The very good news is that testing in the sanctuary and main hallway confirmed that our fellowship hall and sanctuary are both safe to be occupied; there is no current asbestos hazard.

There will be additional testing and remediation in the future, both to ensure the building remains safe for all users; and to comply with OSHA testing requirements for older buildings like ours. Please continue to keep Calvary in prayer during this challenging time, that God will guide and direct us in every matter affecting our church: Preaching, teaching, ministry, evangelism, outreach, building and grounds, and finances (Proverbs 3:5-6).

In Christ,
Pastor Keith

Grounds update:

Work has begun on the removal of three aged crabapple trees. Steve Backues, and his dad, Dennis Backues tackled one of the trees just before the New Year.



Calvary Presbyterian Church