

Connections

A Publication of Calvary Baptist Church
December 2025 | Volume 30 | Number 12

Sunday Services

9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Inner Mission
10:30am Worship Service
(Livestream Available)

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday
9:00am–3:00pm
Friday
9:00am–12:00pm

*(The church office will be closed
December 24 and 25 and
December 31 and January 1
in celebration of the Christmas
and New Year's holidays.)*

Visit us online

www.CalvaryCR.org



[www.facebook.com/
CalvaryBaptistChurchCedarRapids](https://www.facebook.com/CalvaryBaptistChurchCedarRapids)



Please give contact
information updates
to the church office.



CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday, December 24, at **4:00pm** will help set the tone for your family's Christmas celebration by beginning the evening with your hearts and minds focused on the Savior who gives us reason to celebrate. It is also a wonderful occasion for inviting your friends and family members who have not yet received God's gracious gift of salvation through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

During the Christmas season, we celebrate God's amazing gift to us of His Son to be our Savior. If you would like to express your gratitude by giving Him an extra gift beyond your normal giving to His work through Calvary Baptist Church, you can use an offering envelope marked for the Christmas Offering or select that fund when you give electronically. These gifts have been designated this year to bolster Great Commission ministry right here at Calvary Baptist Church and through our regular ministry partners.

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION WITH THE CALVARY CHOIR

The Calvary Choir will host a Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 14, at 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. There will be delicious goodies to enjoy as you and your friends and family gather around tables adorned with Christmas decorations. The choir will sing some Christmas music for you and also sing some traditional carols with you. It will be a festive evening celebrating the good news of our Savior's birth.



LADIES NIGHT OUT

Ladies, you and your friends are invited to enjoy dinner and fellowship at 6:30pm on Monday, December 1 at Napoli's Italian Restaurant, 2360 Edgewood Rd SW. If you plan to attend, call or text Deb Gaeta at 319-491-7720 or send an email to djgaeta@myctl.net. If you need a ride, please let Deb know and she will make arrangements to meet that need for you.

SALT & PEPPER RETIREES FELLOWSHIP

Plan to join us on Tuesday, December 9 at 11:30am in the Fellowship Hall, where we will enjoy a spaghetti lunch. Following our lunch, we will view a video of a Christmas concert presented by well-known gospel musicians, the Collingsworth Family. For more information, contact Nadene Roberts or Donna Voss .

KOINONIA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Young adults are invited to a night of joy, laughter, and fellowship on Saturday, January 3 from 6pm to 9pm in the youth building. Please bring a \$10 wrapped gift for the gift exchange. There will be games, food, music, and plenty of Christmas cheer — don't miss it! Let's celebrate the birth of the Savior together!

BAKERS AND DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED

It's that time of year again to find some cookie bakers in the congregation. The deaconesses are putting together our annual Christmas cookie platters for our shut-ins. If you would like to provide some homemade cookies to fill the platters, or have a desire to be one of the elves who deliver them, please sign up at the welcome center. The cookies need to be taken to the church kitchen between December 14 and 16. The deliveries will take place on December 17 or 18. Thank you for your participation.

SOUP POTLUCK WITH ELECTION AND WINTER Q.M.U.

Mark your calendars now for an all-church soup and chili potluck dinner in the fellowship hall at noon on Sunday, January 18. Following the dinner, we will have our annual election of church officers along with our winter Quarterly Ministry Update.

WINTER BLOOD DRIVE

Save the date! Nadene Roberts and ImpactLife will host a blood drive at Calvary on Monday, February 2. (The last date to donate and still be eligible for our blood drive is December 8.) To sign up or to receive more information on becoming a donor, contact Nadene or visit bloodcenter.org.

Family Forum

WELCOME BABY BOY!

Congratulations to new parents Tory and Emily Slippy on the birth of their son, Jonathan David, on November 20, 2025. Congratulations also to the new grandparents, Pastor Matt and Mindy, as well as all of the aunts and uncles.

THANK YOU NOTE

Wow! Praise God for the incredible offering that Calvary raised for our New Song Church in Denmark. We send you our love and gratitude and look forward to being able to visit you again in the future.

Christian & Stephanie Roth

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Kouami Ahonon & Malekpo Yawui
230 Kirkwood Ct SW, Apt 4
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404



Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month
9:15am-11:15am (Registration at 9:00am)

December 2 — A presentation by Ashley Walker about *Christmas Around the World* and a gnome ornament craft

December 16 — A Cookie Decorating Party! Little Sprouts ages 2+ will be with us in the gym making Christmas cookie memories.

Upcoming Special Events: The Painted Butterfly on December 3 and Gingerbread Party on December 9

December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30pm Ladies Night Out	2 9:15am MUMs 6:00pm–7:15pm Sonshine Singers Rehearsal	3 9:00am Staff Prayer 6:30pm AWANA, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study and Prayer	4	5	6 9:00am–12:00pm Sonshine Singers Final Rehearsal
7 9:00am Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes 10:00am Inner Mission 10:30am Worship Service (Communion) 4:30pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm Sonshine Singers Present: <i>The Mystery of the Missing Manger</i>	8	9 9:15am MUMs Leadership Meeting 11:30am Salt & Pepper Retirees Fellowship 7:00pm Trustee Committee Meeting	10 9:00am Staff Prayer 6:30pm AWANA, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study and Prayer	11	12	13
14 9:00am Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes 10:00am Inner Mission 10:30am Worship Service 4:30pm Choir Rehearsal 6:00pm A Christmas Celebration with the Calvary Choir	15	16 9:15am MUMs 6:00pm Board of Deacons Meeting 6:30pm Deaconess Meeting	17 9:00am Staff Prayer 6:30pm AWANA, Adult Bible Study and Prayer 6:30pm–8:30pm Youth Group Christmas	18	19	20
21 <i>No Sunday School, Adult Bible Classes, or Inner Mission</i> 10:30am Worship Service NO EVENING ACTIVITIES	22	23	24 OFFICE CLOSED 4:00pm Christmas Eve Worship Service	25 Christmas Day OFFICE CLOSED	26	27
28 <i>No Sunday School, Adult Bible Classes, or Inner Mission</i> 10:30am Worship Service NO EVENING ACTIVITIES	29	30	31 OFFICE CLOSED NO EVENING ACTIVITIES			

December Birthdays

2 Julia Hale	12 Tim Abodeely	Forrest Voss
Ron Tower	13 Virginia Keller	Roxann Von Lienen
5 Greg Dengler	14 Sharon Morrow	22 Marlin Dunnick
6 Nadene Roberts	16 Nicole Andree	28 Beverly Daniels
Brad Tower	Aude Mondelus	Tom Dries
7 Hilary Bourne	Donna Voss	Evelyn Lykkegaard
Rick Enfield	Emmet Walker	29 Deb Gaeta
8 Ina Mae Wienola	19 Violet Hayes	Emma Hale
11 Terry Kiser	21 Betty Schutte	30 Bob Lehman

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING MANGER

A Christmas Musical for Kids

Created by Gina Boe



Arranged by Dale Mathews
Tracks by Christopher Phillips



SONSHINE SINGERS CHRISTMAS MUSICAL PRESENTATION

You and your friends and family are invited to join our Sonshine Singers children's choir at 6:00pm on Sunday, December 7, as a fun cast of characters seeks to solve "The Mystery of the Missing Manger." In the process, we all will discover why something's very wrong when the manger is missing from the Christmas decorations. Make sure that this delightful musical isn't missing from your Christmas celebrations this year!

SPECIAL REHEARSALS

Sonshine Singers and parents, please don't forget that there will be a special rehearsal on Tuesday, December 2, 6:00pm - 7:15pm. Be sure your calendars are also marked for our final rehearsal from 9:00am to noon on Saturday, December 6.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Wednesday, December 17, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm, the Calvary teens will be celebrating the birth of our Savior with a party in the youth building. Please bring snacks and drinks to share and a small gift (under \$10) to exchange.

ARCTIC ADVENTURE

Junior high and senior high students are invited to attend the "Arctic Adventure," a winter retreat January 16-18 at Spring Valley Bible Camp in Muscatine, IA. They will enjoy biblical teaching and a whole lot of fun. Cost is \$100. **Permission slips and payment are due by December 14.** Contact Pastor Matt for more information.

