



**NEVER
DINE
ALONE**



Acts 2:42



Welcome to MSM, 7th and 8th Grade Students!

I can't begin to tell you how pumped I am to begin another year here in our middle school 7th and 8th grade program! What a wonderful privilege it is to help students develop a personal growing relationship with Christ and share in that with others. Our theme this year is Cafeteria: never dine alone! It's our desire to emphasize to students why it's important to be with other Christians as we grow closer to God. As you flip through these pages we hope you can see the time and thought we've put in to every event and how it all points towards helping Calvary reach middle school students for Christ, and helping middle school students grow closer to God in community.

What to Expect

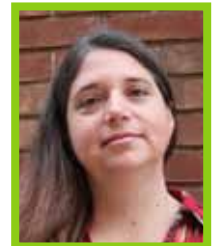
Each of our events are designed with a specific purpose in mind. On Sunday mornings students will worship, hang out together, go through the book of Genesis, and engage in some fun and interactive stories that deal with some of same issues we deal with today. Wednesday nights provides students with opportunities to engage in mentoring from our well-trained and caring adult leaders; practice Christian virtues; engage in conversations with their peers who are dealing with some of the same issues they are; and grow through conversations, times of worship, and opportunities to develop social skills in a Christian setting. You'll also notice we have retreats, guys and girls night outs, and other events that challenge students to grow, opportunities for them to serve and share their faith, and provide them a fun and comfortable atmosphere for doing it. It's our prayer as you scan through these passages that two things will become very clear: 1) We have a tremendous love for God; 2) We are crazy about showering that love on students in order to help them grow.

Getting Involved When You're New

Looking back to my years in 7th and 8th grade, perhaps there was no greater challenge than feeling like I "fit in". If you've ever moved somewhere new, changed schools, or simply joined something you've never been a part of before - you know first hand the challenges students face when they get involved. We want to make every effort to help our middle school ministry



Bethann Talsma
Admin. Assistant



Natalie Uecker
Admin. Assistant

feel like home to students. The honest truth is it simply takes time. The best advice I could give a student is to keep coming back, even if the first couple of times were a bit awkward. We think there is a tremendous amount of value in what we do and in addition to attending worship services with their families, can play a huge role in students growing spiritually.

Mark Those Calendars!

I'm not sure about you, but I tend to forget things quickly if I don't mark them on my calendar. Our hope is that this year-long brochure will provide you a good description of what we're doing this year so that you can prayerfully consider what ways you might be involved. We'll have our events listed in the *Calvary Life*, on our website, and in various places throughout the church. If you'd like reminders for events coming up, feel free to contact our office calvarystudents@calvarygr.org to receive a reminder email about our events.



Sara Tindall,
7th/ 8th Facilitator

Ways to Communicate With Us

One of the best ways to communicate with us is through email. We frequently send emails to parents about middle events and needs. If you are not receiving these and would like to, tell us your email address and add calvarystudentsgr.org to your trusted sender list.

Event Scholarships

Partial scholarships (up to 50%) are often available for offsetting the cost of our events. If you would like to receive one, let us know.







We are so excited to see how God is going to work through our students' lives this next year. As you flip through these pages, would you be open to praying for each of these events and asking God to give us wisdom and discernment as we seek to grow closer to him? Thank you again for partnering with us as we reach a generation for Christ,

It's in His name we serve ,
Pastor Byron



Byron Dickey
Middle School Pastor

SEPTEMBER

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Family Service No MSM						
11	12	13	 14	15	16	17
 <p>Gen. 1 & 2 - Well Isn't That Something</p> Parents' Gathering			Oasis Begins 6:30			
18	19	20	 21	22	23	24
 <p>Gen. 3 - The Great Big, Awesomely Horrible, Terribly Bad Fall</p>			Ordinary to Extraordinary Memorize: Philippians 4:13			
25	26	27	 28	29	30	
 <p>Gen. 4 - Raising Cain</p> GNO			Attitude Check Memorize: Philippians 2:5			

EVENTS

Oasis Begins

Sept. 14 | 6:30-8:00pm | Rm 108
Cost: \$10 (Includes T-shirt)

Oasis is our Wednesday night small group program! Want to go deeper, asking specific questions about topics that concern you? Want to make some close friends? Want to get to know some of our fun, caring, super skilled leaders on a more personal level? We'll play games, worship, hear a brief talk, and break up into our groups. You can join Oasis any time in the school year, just show up!

Parents' Gathering

Sept. 11 | 12:20-1:00pm | Rm 109

During this parent's meeting we will discuss our events for the year, go over our Sunday and Wednesday topics, give you an opportunity to ask questions about our ministry and meet other parents of middle school students. (Snacks will be provided)

Guys'/Girls' Night Out (GNO)*

Sept. 25 | 5:30-8:30pm
Guys - Entrance J | Cost: \$12







We will head to Craig's Cruisers for games and dinner!

Girls - Room 129 | Cost: \$12

Come paint pottery with the girls! We will have Naked Plates on site with different items for us to paint.

*Parent-signed year-long release form needed on file to participate.

OCTOBER

							1
 2 Gen. 6-9 - Don't look up... here comes the rain!	3	4	 5 Taming Your Tongue: Encouragement Memorize: Eph. 4:20	6	7	8	
 9 Gen. 11:1-9 - Check out the cool tower we built with our hands.	10	11	 12 No thanks, I'd rather be ungrateful Memorize: I Thess. 5:18	13	14	15	
 16 Gen. 12:15 - Cause I'm moving on up...	17	18	 19 The Apple of His Eye - Self Image Memorize: Eph. 2:10	20	21	22	
GNO							
 23 Gen. 16- Whose womb is it anyway?	24	25	 26 Oasis Out	27	28	29	

EVENTS

Guys'/Girls' Night Out (GNO)

October 16 | 5:30-8:30pm
 Meet at the Church (Location is a surprise!)
 Cost: \$5

Guys and girls nights out (GNO) are the perfect way to meet new friends, hang out with our awesome leaders, and engage in serious and not so serious conversation. Hope to see you there!



NOVEMBER

 30 Cereal Sunday!	31	nov. 1	 2 Mine, Mine, All Mine! Learning to Give Memorize: I Tim. 6:9-10	3	4	5
 6 Gen. 17 - Hurry up, I'm getting so old just standing here!	7	8	 9 Laying it all on the Line. Faith. Memorize: II Cor. 5:7	10	Fall Retreat Fri. 5:30pm - Sat. 5:30pm	
 13 Gen. 18-19 - Extreme City Makeover	14	15	 16 Being a Ficus for God, Spiritual Growth Memorize: Phil. 3:12	17		
 20 5th-8th Combined - Guest Speaker	21	22	Thanksgiving Eve Service - No Oasis			
Family Service No MSM		27	28	29	 30 Handling the Big "T" Temptation. Memorize: Heb. 4:15	

EVENTS

AREA ONE! Fall Retreat*

Nov. 12 at 5:30pm-Nov. 13 at 5:30pm | Grace Adventures

Meet at Entrance D

Cost: \$65 (\$55 if paid in full by October 31)






\$25 non-refundable deposit due at registration

First thing I notice going in to someone's house is that there are areas designed for different parts of their life. We have kitchens for making food, dining rooms for eating in, family rooms for hanging out together, and bedrooms for sleeping. During our fall retreat we'll play some awesome games (including mega-box wars) laugh together, worship together, eat some camp food together, and examine different areas of our lives and how God can be honored in each ONE. Great opportunity to make new friends and learn more about this awesome God and how we can bring him glory in all of our "areas".

Space is limited, advance sign-up required.

*Parent-signed year-long release form needed on file to participate.

DECEMBER

				1	2	3	
 4 Gen. 20 - Stand by your [wo]man	5	6	 7 I've Changed My Mind Memorize: Prov. 4:23	8	9	10 Project-SERVE! Never Dine Alone!	
 11 Gen. 21-22 - You Win Son, You [Almost] Lose Son	12	13	 14 Christmas in Hawaii	15	16	17	
 18 Cinema Sunday - Join us as we watch a movie about Christmas	19	20	Holiday - No Oasis	21	22	23	24
25 Family Service No MSM	26	27	Holiday - No Oasis	28	29	30	31

EVENTS

ProjectSERVE!

Never Dine Alone!
 Dec. 10, 1:45-3:30pm | Entrance J

Location: Pilgrim's Manor

Christmas can be a lonely time of year for some. This is a time for us as a group to turn the focus away from us and our fun and focus on the needs of others. We will spend some time with senior citizens at a nursing home singing carols and just offering friendship to some lonely people. You'll be amazed at how fun and fulfilling this will be. Ultimately following Jesus isn't about us; it's about serving God by serving others. This is a great opportunity to live that out.

Wear festive Christmas colors and get ready to sing Christmas carols & play bingo! All MSM students grades 5-8 are welcome to join us as we serve the community during the holiday season.



JANUARY

1	2	3	 4	5	6	7
Family Service No MSM			Giving God Props Memorize: Mark 12:30			
 8	9	10	 11	12	13	14
Gen. 24 - The pick up line that works every time!			Seen and Not Heard: Loving Others Memorize: Mark 12'31			
 15	16	17	 18	19	20	21
Gen. 25:19-28:9 - It's time for Family Feud!			Who do you listen to? Memorize: 1 Peter 2:9			
Missions Mtg						
 22	23	24	 25	26	27	28
Gen. 28:10-22 - I promise to never do that again!			God's Love Letter to Us Memorize: James 1:22			
 29	30	31				
5th-8th Combined - Guest Speaker						

EVENTS

Student Ministries Missions Info Meeting

January 15 from 12:30-1:15pm
Room 108 | Snacks provided

Parents and students are welcome to join us as we discuss upcoming missions trips and answer any questions you might have. This is also a great opportunity to meet other families from the church. We will open up the meeting to other questions as time permits.



FEBRUARY

			 1	2	3	4
			New Life in Christ Memorize: John 1:12			
 5	6	7	 8	9	10	11
Gen. 29-31 - Only for the committed!			Me, Myself and I: Selfish- ness Memorize: Phil. 2:3			
 12	13	14	 15	16	17	18
Gen. 32 - I just can't wait!			A Heartbreak- er: Sharing our Beliefs Memorize: Matt. 9:37-38		Spring Hill Winter Retreat	
 19	20	21	 22	23	24	25
Gen. 33 - Mi Casa es Su Casa?			Ash Wednes- day - 7th/8th Combined with High School			
 26	27	28	 29			
5th-8th Combined - Guest Speaker			Oasis Out			

EVENTS

Spring Hill Winter Retreat

Feb. 17 at 5:30pm (Entrance D) -
Feb. 19 at 5:30pm (Entrance D)

Cost: \$130 (\$120 if paid in full by
February 6)

\$25 non-refundable deposit due
at registration

To Register: In addition to the
year-long Calvary Church release
form, you'll need a non-refundable
deposit, and a Spring Hill medical
release form completed.

This year's theme, *en Route*, will
give you direction as you navigate
a challenging world. Dynamic
speakers, interactive small group
times, and a challenging prayer
labyrinth will bring to life key truths
from Philippians 3:13-14, truths that
will help them along their journey
to Christ-likeness. It's a weekend
designed with awesome times of
worship, extraordinary activities,
and plenty of time to grow together
as a group.




SpringHill Activities*

High-Speed Tubing, Broomball,
Batting Cage, Gym, Indoor Climbing
Wall, Giants Ladder, High Ropes
Course, 6' Half Pipe, Crafts, Game
Room, Paintball, Horses, Indoor Pool

*some activities may cost extra

Space is limited, advance sign-up is
required. Deposit at registration is
non-refundable

MARCH

				1	2	3	
Gen. 34 - Dinah did you blow your horn or is someone out to get you?	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
							
				Flossing Away Anger & Bitterness Memorize: Eph. 4:31-32			
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Gen. 37 - Schemers 10, Dreamers 1							
GNO				All Stressed Out and No Place to Go Memorize: Matt. 6:34			
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Gen. 39-41 - Egyppted!							
				Surviving the Storm: When we Suffer Memorize: Matt. 14:31			
	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							

EVENTS

Student Led Sunday

March 25

Join us as we have our own middle school students lead in worship for 5th-8th grade! If you'd like to help serve, please contact Lee Bergakker, Sara Tindall, or Pastor Byron.

Guys'/Girls' Night Out (GNO)

March 11 | 6:00-8:00pm

Guys - Byron's House (3443 Shady Place NE) | Cost: Free





Join us for our annual extravaganza: Waffles and Wii! Bring yourself to Byron's House as we talk about life, grub down on some delicious waffles and play wii! Great time to make new friends and discuss what is happening in our lives.

Girls - Meet at Entrance J | Cost: \$10

Join us for fun at the Castaway Bay and Splash Tower Waterpark at the Ramada Inn. Plan on eating dinner beforehand since we will want as much time as possible to swim! Bring a modest swim suit and towel. Transportation will be provided.

*Parent-signed year-long release form needed on file to participate.

ARISE

 Gen. 42-46 - When Difficulty Comes	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
			Spring Break - No Oasis					
Family Service No MSM	8	9	10	 Sexual Temptation Memorize: I Cor. 10:13	11	12	13	14
						Dare2Share: Gameday		
 Gen. 47-50 - Dream a little Dream for me, Part 1	15	16	17	 A Discussion About Homo- sexuality Memorize: Eph. 5:18	18	19	20	21
 Gen. 47-50 - Dream a little Dream for me, Part 2	22	23	24	 Oasis Out	25	26	27	28
 Gen. 47-50 - Dream a little Dream for me, Part 3	29	30						

EVENTS

Dare2Share: Gameday

April 13 at 3:00pm - April 14 at 11:59pm | Entrance J

Cost: \$45

Contact Byron to register.


Training is a huge part of a students' life. Whether you're in basketball, soccer, football, gymnastics or even choir, ballet or band...you're committed. You spend hours practicing, training, rehearsing, and pushing themselves to the limit.

While all these activities are great, we know you have another game to get ready for. At GameDay, students will face the reality and the urgency of the "competition" they are a part of every day in the grand Kingdom conflict for the souls of their friends.

Through powerful training, worship, drama, and outreach opportunities, teens will pour into 2 Timothy 4:1-8 and come away motivated and equipped to follow the Apostle Paul's powerful charge to young believers.

In addition to the parent-signed, year-long release form on file, you will need a Dare 2 Share release form completed.



			1  God's Radical Forgiveness Luke 15:20	2	3	4	5
6  How do I Know I can Trust the Bible - 2 Timothy 3:6	7	8	9  End of the Year Party!	10	11	12	
13  How do I Know Christianity is True & Other Religions Are Not - John 14:6	14	15	Eighth Grade Celebration		17	18	19
20  How do I know God Really Exists? - Ephesians 2:8-9 GNO	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27 Family Service No MSM	28	29	30	31			

EVENTS

Eighth Grade Celebration

May 16 from 6:00-8:30pm |
Byron's House (3443 Shady Place NE)

Cost: Free | Dinner Provided

8th Graders - join us as we celebrate you and have a great time celebrating the year!

Guys'/Girls' Night Out (GNO)

May 20 from 6:00-8:00pm |
Entrance J

Guys - Cost: \$8

It's time to get our bowl on! Join us as we hang out, talk about life, and bowl the night away. Transportation to and from the bowling alley will be provided. Hope to see you there!

Girls - Cost: \$12

Come spend the evening at Craig's Cruisers with the girls! The cost is \$12 and includes games and pizza! Transportation to and from Craig's Cruisers will be provided.

*Parent-signed year-long release form needed on file to participate.

COMPASSION KIDS

Each Sunday we take an offering to support two kids through Compassion International.

Selam Yilma

Selam is a 14-year-old boy from Ethiopia. He lives in the community of Zeway 02 Zebale, home to about 70,000 residents. Through our support, Selam is able to attend a local Christian school where he receives Bible teaching, hygiene education, clothing, nutritious food, recreational activities, tutoring and school materials.

Prayer Requests for Selam:

1. Pray for Selam as he learns more about Jesus at church and school.
2. Pray for abundant harvests for families in Selam's village who depend on agriculture to survive.
3. Pray for Selam's family

Facts about Selam:

Birthday: 8/29/1996

Favorite Activities: Soccer, Hide-and-Seek, Running

Chores: Running Errands, Cleaning, Animal Care

Average Family Monthly Income: \$25

Common Health Issues in his community: Malaria, typhoid fever, pneumonia, asthma & Tuberculosis.

Vishaka Kirtkar

Vishaka is an 11-year-old-girl from India. She lives in a small hillside community called Saldhara, there are about 8,100 residents. Through our sponsorship Vishaka is able to attend a local school that provides bible teaching, health instruction, hygiene supplies, nutritious meals, recreational activities and life skills training.

Prayer Requests for Vishaka:

1. Pray for Vishaka as she learns more about Jesus through her bible classes and Church.
2. Pray for the city of Saldhara as they need electricity, proper sanitation, educational materials and employment opportunities.
3. Pray for Vishaka's family.

Facts about Vishaka

Birthday- 1/5/2000

Favorites Activities/Hobbies- Walking, Hide-and-Seek, Running, Reading & Jump Rope

Chores- Errands, Cleaning, Carries Water, Kitchen Help

Average Family Income: \$15 a month

Common Health Issues: malnutrition, colds and viral infections.

A Note from Vishaka



PH. No. : 44304

Compassion

IN-844-01-171 Varanasi Puram

US1590285 Junior High Min Calvary Church

IN8440121US1590285SL



Date 11/11/2010



प्रिय स्वागच्छ

तुम्हाला मधु लोखेच्या गोरु आणि श्री पावित्र नावाच्या

तमासकास मी इथे खुप मजेत आहे तुम्ही पण तेथे खुप मजेत

आसता आम्हा करते आमच्या कडे आताच खिस्मासकासाला

व्हायचकोला जावईला व्हाय मधुन नविन कपडु मळिलेते खुपच छान आहे

मला ते फार आवडते म्हास्वीलाचा डावा पण मी व्हाते खिस्मासकास काय कामासही

नासका राहते म्हाका छानला हेना ठाणे पण म्हाले खुप खुप मजा केली आम्ही

गोरु गोरु पदास पण व्हाय आणोसुम्ही खिस्मास कासाव्हाणका केला तुम्ही

पण गोरु म्हाले जसेल म्हाय। जोरगा व्हाय आहे आमच्या सेटव म्हा व्हाय व्हाय

मासोळीत केले आहे त्यामध्येगी लोखेची आणि धावने त्याच्यात शावा घेतले आहे

मी तुमच्यासाठी करव्हाय म्हाका करते तुम्ही पण म्हाया सारी म्हायला फार

छानतरी। तुमची लाडली गुलगी

खिस्मास विस्तकार

Translation by Praveen (PC)

Dear sponsor,

Greetings to you in the sweet and sacred name of our

Lord Jesus Christ. I am fine here and hope that you are also

fine there. We celebrated Christmas here. We got new

dresses from the centre. Dresses are very beautiful. I

like it very much. I got steel box also. On Christmas

celebration I took part in drama. I sang song also. I

enjoyed the programme very much. We ate sweet dish.

How did you celebrate Christmas? Did you sing song? My

voice is very nice. Our centre arrange sport competition.

I participated in 'kangadi' and 'running'. Daily I pray for



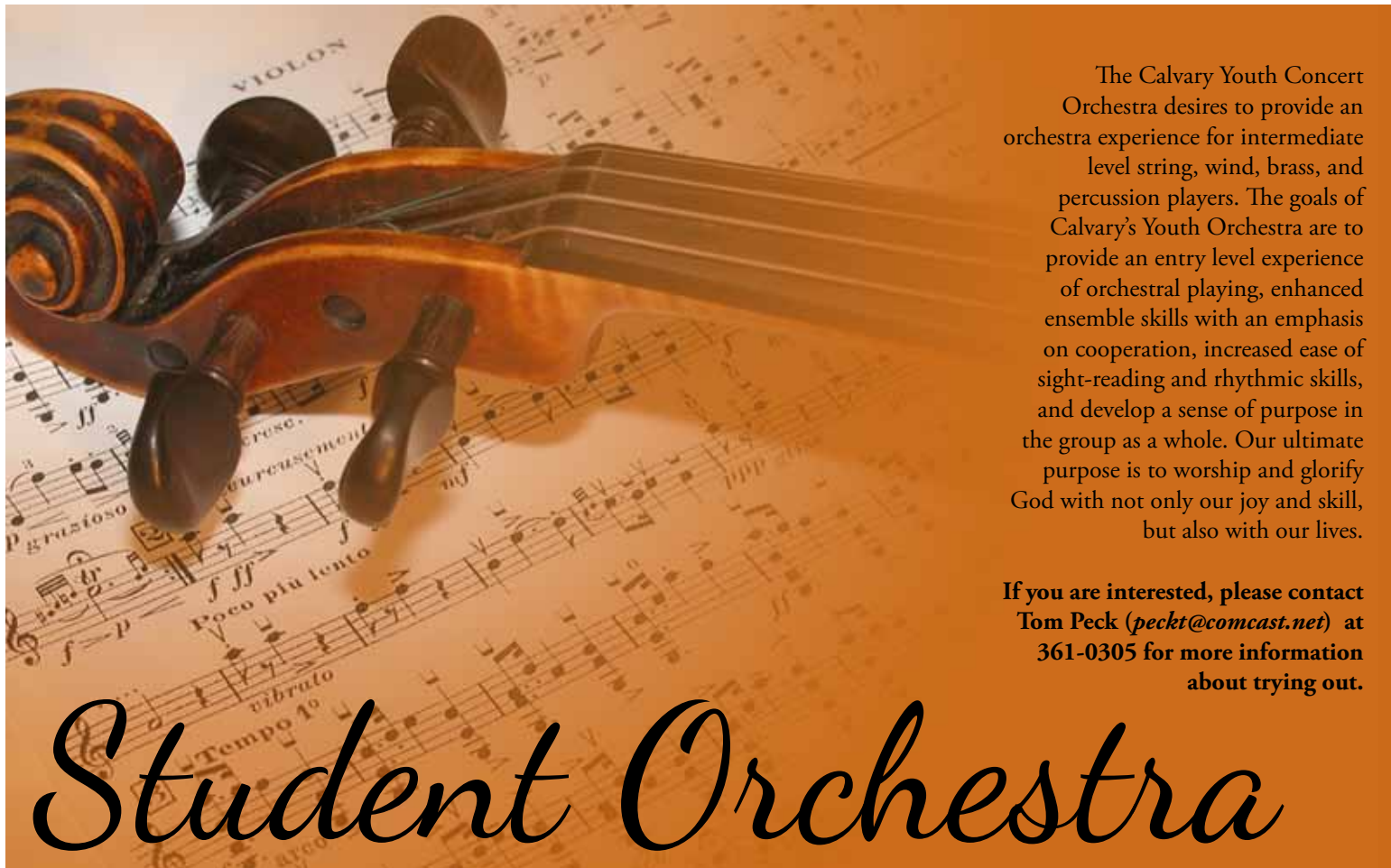
THE BIG D: DIVORCE THROUGH THE EYES OF A TEEN

Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30pm, Room 152 (Entrance K)

There are three 12-week sessions per year (September to November, January to March, and May to July).

“The Big D” is a ministry designed to encourage and empower teens to deal with their feelings, fears and emotions while experiencing the divorce or separation of their parents. It is very common for teens to experience a variety of conflicting emotions during this time. Many react with anger, withdrawal and intense pain carrying these unresolved emotions in to their own futures. Because of the divorce or separation of their parents, teens find them in a hopeless situation they did not choose. That is where “The Big D” comes in. This 12-week session equips teens with the God given tools to live a life of hope and the promise of a changed tomorrow.

To register, contact Lou DeGraaf
(ldegraaf@calvarygr.org) at ext. 3618.



The Calvary Youth Concert Orchestra desires to provide an orchestra experience for intermediate level string, wind, brass, and percussion players. The goals of Calvary's Youth Orchestra are to provide an entry level experience of orchestral playing, enhanced ensemble skills with an emphasis on cooperation, increased ease of sight-reading and rhythmic skills, and develop a sense of purpose in the group as a whole. Our ultimate purpose is to worship and glorify God with not only our joy and skill, but also with our lives.

If you are interested, please contact Tom Peck (peckt@comcast.net) at 361-0305 for more information about trying out.

Student Orchestra



NEW! Devotional Books Available: 31 verses every teenager should know about community.

We are pleased to offer students a devotional book that covers 31 verses on community. Our hope is that students will learn more about the church, God's purpose for it, and how they fit in. We are encouraging students to do one devotional a week in addition to the devotions they may already do. The cost is \$5 and you can pick them up at our Parent's Gatherings, Sunday mornings, or Wednesday nights. What a great opportunity to help our students know more about God's Word!



How do I register for an event?

Have your student sign up on the sign-up sheet passed around in the weeks before an event, call our office or email. Make sure your student has a parent-signed 2011-2012 year-long medical release form on file, turns in the required cost or deposit for an event, and completes any extra paperwork indicated.

What are the benefits?

In addition to students being involved with worship and starting to get involved in serving throughout the church we believe Middle School Ministry has huge benefits towards helping students become fully devoted followers of Christ: It connects students with loving, spiritually maturing adults who can live out what the Christian life is all about and love and train younger men and women. It provides students with a place to belong and sense of ownership of their faith. It tells students "God loves you right where you are at." It's a place where students can begin to use their spiritual gifts and reach out to their peers. I have heard testimonies from many students who were deeply impacted by a middle school ministry and are living examples of God's grace, power, and love (myself included)!

Help! My student isn't connected! How do I get him/her involved?

Great question! It's difficult to get involved when you're new. It can also be hard to reach out to new people when you have established relationships. It requires stretching on both parts. We encourage our students to look for

ways to be outgoing, and we pray that when someone is new they would be willing to step out of their comfort zone and keep working at making friendships.

My simple answer is come to everything. You never know which event will cause friendships and spiritual growth to click. The retreats and guys/girls night outs are especially helpful initially, and Oasis is the perfect place to grow deeper with friendships.

Are there ways I can help out?

Make no mistake, we love having parents help out! We have parents serving as small group leaders, help with various events, and open their homes to different activities. We do our best to keep connected with parents about various needs and prayer requests through email and quarterly parent's gatherings. By the way, all our fantastic small group leaders fill out an application, undergo a background check and receive training. If you're interested in serving, contact our Student Ministries Office.

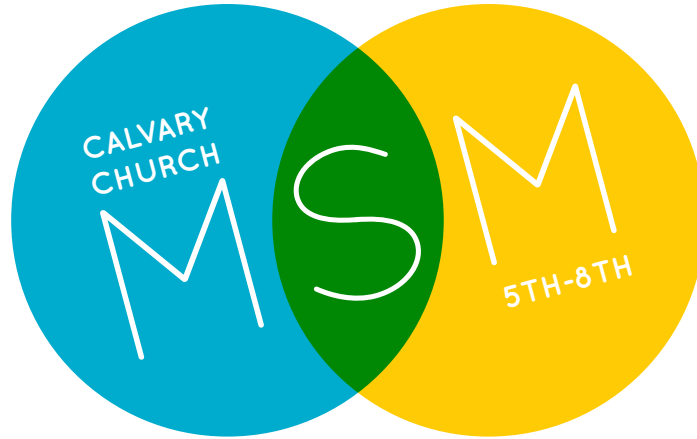
I have questions you haven't answered!

I'd love to answer any questions you might have and provide you with the reason and purpose behind what we do! Feel free to stop by, phone, or email us.

We deeply care about your student and are happy to help in any way we can.

Email: calvarystudents@calvarygr.org

Phone: 956-9377, ext. 5181



Calvary Church Middle School Ministry
Location: 707 E Beltline NE | Grand Rapids MI | 49525
Mailing: PO Box 1600 | Grand Rapids MI | 49501
calvarystudents@calvarygr.org | 956-9377 | calvarygr.org