

2020 Departmental Reports

Care

In the beginning of 2020, the Care department was overseeing Equipped classes, visitation of shut ins, hospitalized, and Hospice, and holding Bible studies in nursing homes. In addition, in person counseling was taking place and our first response team was active on Sundays.

When restrictions were implemented for the pandemic, the ministry continued by sending notes and cards, making phone calls, and meeting and counseling virtually when possible.

Ministry had to look different, but was it was more important than ever for the church to be there to help with the stress and isolation.

Connect

Connection was a challenge in 2020, but we are thankful that we were still able to reach our community. Whether it was in person, under a tent, or online, we saw first time guest and visitors. In total, we had 217 in person visitors and 67 online visitors fill out connect cards. We continued our ministry of giving gifts to first time visitors. For those who visited online, their gift was mailed or delivered if they were local.

We had three New People Parties in 2020. In January we had 29 people come out for an in-person event. We held an online New People party by Zoom for 20 in May. An additional 19 people enjoyed a virtual party in December.

Discipleship

Life Groups:

- Life Group ministry launched in January 2020
 - Life Group Leadership Team formed in January 2020 to help guide Life Group ministry
 - Life Group Leaders meeting on February 25, 2020 launched Life Group ministry focus
 - Pivoted to all online Life Groups in March 2020
 - Approximately 60 online Life Groups created during March 2020 to help maintain community and connection when unable to meet in-person
 - Life Groups meeting in-person and online again in June 2020
 - Continue to see the number of Life Groups growing
- Support Groups:
 - Grief Share, Divorce Care, Parents of Addicted Loved Ones, and Completely Free support groups met in-person and online throughout the year.

Wednesday Evening Adult Discipleship:

- Began study through the books of 1 and 2 Thessalonians: How to Live a Life of Purpose in January through early March
- Conducted Calvary Ministry School classes in-person until mid-March.
 - Classes offered were BIB 114 Christ in the Synoptic Gospels and THE 245 Eschatology: A Study of Things to Come
 - Several students continuing classes as independent studies during the remainder of 2020
- In March 2020, shifted to Wednesday evening online discussions and studies
- In August 2020, shifted to Tuesday evening online discussions

Helping People Become Part of the Calvary Family:

- Trained 17 people and created the Calvary Assimilation Leadership Team in August 2020

Kids

2020 began as a year like no other. The Children's Department was geared up and ready for an amazing year. During January and February 2020, we had record attendance on both Wednesday and Sunday mornings. On January 26th, we served 499 kids over three services. We also geared up for an in person parenting conference to be held on March 14th. As we know, everything changed on March 12th.

While the pandemic took us all by surprise. We quickly learned to not let it stop us. Here are our pandemic highlights:

- We began to write, record, and put together weekly Sunday morning services for students of all ages. These began on April 5th and have not stopped. We successfully put on 39 online lessons for students. These lessons continue in 2021.
- Weekday interactive Live sessions were held on Facebook to interact with families. The children's department put on 60 live sessions with families.
- We held our first ever virtual SummerBlast. Over 200 families turned in, 125 students participated in our interactive memory verse challenge, and \$1086 dollars was raised for Connecting Kids with Meals right here in our community.
- As Calvary transitioned to in person tent services, we added on age specific tent bags for students to use at these services. Over the 12 weeks of tent services, over 1000 bags were handed out.
- We are grateful to be back in the building, even with new guidelines in place. Currently we are serving 250 students on a Sunday morning. We have seen substantial growth in the special needs ministry, and are beginning to see the fruits of a 2021 baby boom. We have seen many new faces join us since March 2020. One family wrote "Bringing our boys up in the church has always been incredibly important to us, and it has been so difficult feeling like we have had to choose between going to church and following public health guidelines. THANK YOU for bridging that gap. I wanted to adequately express how much Toledo Calvary is an answer to prayer for us in this hard season. We are

overwhelmingly grateful for all you are doing to make attending a church service as safe as possible right now. We recognize all the extra work and planning that goes into it. Thank you so much.”

Outside of the Children’s Department weekly services, we also put on an Online Parenting Conference. This conference was originally scheduled for in person but cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions. As a team, we decided to bring it as an online conference to families in May. With over 100 couples signed up, we had a fantastic day and turn out. We are excited to bring back a revamped conference in Fall 2021.

Missions

Love the 419

Serve Week

This year Serve Week took place all over the city right from your own homes. While Covid may not have allowed us all come together and serve, hundreds of people put on their Love the 419 shirts and hit the streets right where they lived. Our biggest project was collecting 700 care packages to bless the whole staff at McLaren St. Luke’s!

Christmas in the 419

Christmas is a great time of year to invest in our community. This year we had our second Christmas in the 419 catalog. By joining with our partners in the community we are able to bless those who need a little extra love this season. Calvary’s people rose to the challenge and over \$31,000 was collected to purchase items like shoes, mattresses, bedding, parenting classes, books, and more!

- Total donated - \$31,740
- 186 people participated in making donations

Collections

With all the changes after March we started to collect food, baby items and household items each Sunday to give to our local Maumee food bank. We knew that people would start to need extra resources. We partnered with the Maumee Boy Scouts three times for large food collections. Calvary blew us away with the many truck loads of items collected.

In October we collected food for Thanksgiving meals. We were able to bless over 100 families at our partner school Marshall Stemm Academy.

Feed the 419

Our teams work hard to be able to continue to provide our monthly meals even through the lockdown. This year we were able to feed over 1500 underprivileged people at our two locations.

Love the World

Things looked a little different this year but God's call to reach the world has not changed. Because of your faithful giving we have been able to continue supporting over 165 missionaries and organization each month. Our annual golf outing raised \$4000 to help translate the Bible into a language that does not yet have a copy of God's Word. At Christmas we raised \$2640 for our friends in Madagascar to purchase shoes for many children. And although we needed to cancel our five planned missions trips, this August we sent off one of our own church members for a two-year missions assignment to a sensitive nation in Africa. We are excited to see God's call in action and cannot wait to hear stories of life change.

Even through a worldwide pandemic our mission partners have continued to reach out all across the world. Story after story has flooded in of unique opportunities that missionaries have had to reach out in this crazy year.

Women's Ministry

2020 was off to an amazing start in Women's Ministry! We had our first ever Calvary Ladies Conference, and it was a sell out! Ladies from all over our community filled the auditorium; we worshipped, soaked in God's Word, we were challenged by our great speakers Lisa Seaton and Amy Seiffert. We laughed, we cried, we had cupcakes and even shopped. Lives were changed and it was amazing! It was the start of something beyond our plans, God moved and we cannot wait to be able to gather again!

In the Spring, we met several times over Zoom for Second Saturday. We look forward to what is ahead in 2021.

Worship

This was a unique year! We welcomed a new worship pastor during a pandemic. It was awesome to watch the team come together during the pandemic. For a season of 3 months the worship team rallied together to set up and tear down each week and make church happen under the tent. We found a new balance of recording services for our online audience which helped us launch a Thursday evening service. This service has been a major highlight and has become a way for us to create tailored services to better engage our online community. Since we moved back into the building, we have been able to reopen Auditorium 2 and week over week have seen growth. We are working on developing new leaders and building healthier teams.

During quarantine were able to start team devotionals to invest and speak life into members while we were not able to be together in person. A big win has been seeing students more involved and engaged during weekend worship experiences. The biggest creative highlight for the team was Christmas. We were able to have 9 in person services over 3 days and tailor an amazing online experience. We were able to film in multiple locations that enhanced our experience to feel extra special for those watching online.

As we walk into this new year, I am excited to see what God has in store. I believe the Worship/Creative department will be able to use new ways to reach our community and our church. I am honored to be a part of Calvary and I cannot wait.

Young Adults

- In January we ran a campaign to promote YA small groups through which we were able to get many people connected to a group
- In February we had a very successful event at a local restaurant where young adults gathered and made new connections and even got plugged into groups
- Our small groups were able to make the transition to meeting virtually and provided many people with the social interaction they needed for that season
- Although the parenting conference was canceled in-person, we were able to host the conference virtually. The online format helped us to reach more people as well as provide them with videos that they could go back and watch over again throughout the year.

Youth

We are excited to share with you the life change that God brought to students' lives in this past year. Despite the unusual year that 2020 provided, Calvary Student Ministries still strove to allow every student to experience life change. A year of true life change began with our Avalanche retreat in February and did not stop even when the world did. We ministered through Online Services in the spring, Online Life Groups throughout the summer, 6-12 services under the tent, and services inside the building at the end of the year. Even though the medium of connection and community continued to shift, the teenager's God entrusted to CSM have not and we did our best to serve the students of Calvary Church.

One such story of life change occurred during one of our High School Online Life Groups. We had a young man from Maumee High School join us in late April, he was graduating that spring and was getting ready to leave for the military in June. I connected with him and asked him what brought him to the Life Group, he replied that he had never attended Calvary or CSM but follows our CSM Instagram account and decided to join us. After the life group ended, I was able to stay on the call with him and he prayed and accepted Christ into his life for the first time! He joined the group every week until he left for basic training in June.

In High School ministry, we focused on honoring our 2020 seniors by celebrating them in three different ways. We were able to drive around and put graduation signs from Calvary in over 35 of our graduating seniors' yards. Calvary also hosted an online service where seniors were able to talk to the whole church about their journey at Calvary, the different ways that they have grown in Christ at CSM and be encouraged by the church. We also hosted a drive through graduation party where over 25 students and their families were honored by their friends and members of the church.

For many of our Middle School students, this year brought different distractions and disappointments to their lives. But we were able to adapt and think creatively about finding unique ways that our students could connect with their peers and leaders at CSM. One great event that our new 6th grade students were able to participate in was a Kayak Trip down the Maumee River. We had over 50 students come out for this socially distanced and fun day! Online offerings have also been a great asset for many of our students who have been unable to attend in person. We learned and adapted with the goal of helping our Middle School students to have a place where they could belong.

In February we had our one “normal” event before COVID-19 hit. Avalanche. 177 students and over 25 leaders came out for this life changing weekend. Little did we know, but the spiritual experiences that our students had would propel them into a world and culture that no one could have prepared for. We are thankful for the way God aligns things, even when we do not always understand the “why” behind them.

Throughout 2020, our students kept missions giving at the forefront. As a group, we gave our \$3,100 to Speed the Light. Towards the end of the year, we challenged our Calvary Kids to a giving challenge all in the efforts to support more of those who God has called!

As we look forward to 2021, we know that services, groups, and overall ministry will look very different. But we believe that this will be a year that our students will get “Back on Track” with God and with their other CSM friends, as we walk into the next season that God has in store for our group.