



MOBILIZING INTO MINISTRY



ANNUAL REPORT

Calvary Bible Church

Oct 2022 - Sept 2023

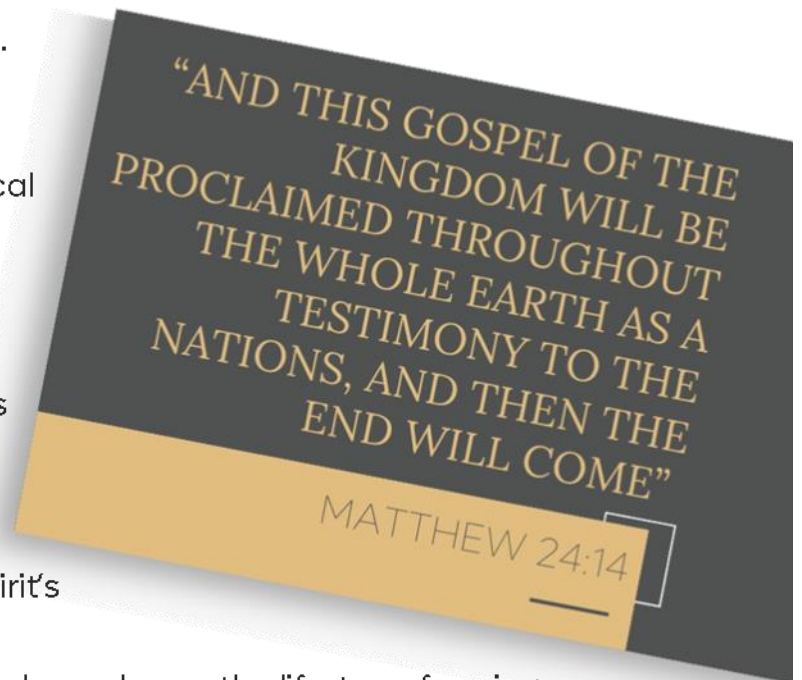


Dear CBC Family,

This Scripture tells us that any confidence we have to, *“Go, ...and make disciples of all nations...baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit and teaching them...”* (Matt 28:19) is rooted in the promise of our resurrected Savior who has guaranteed the outcome. The advance of Christ’s Kingdom and the completion of this all-important task of carrying His message and proclaiming His gospel has been given to the church and will be completed. But how does this happen? What are the means through which disciples are made and God’s Kingdom comes?

These Scriptures remind us of some non-negotiable values for this great task of mobilizing God’s people for the task of propelling the *“gospel of the Kingdom”*:

- **Life-transforming gospel power.** We must be a group of believers who are convinced that the life-transforming gospel of Jesus saves and sanctifies. As the message of the Kingdom found in God’s Word is studied, cherished, and unleashed, it ignites and sustains the mission of making and equipping disciples. Bible-saturated disciple-making drives a love for God’s glory and a love for people who don’t know Him.
- **The local Church is the training ground.** Local churches, led by church leaders who are Spirit-filled and focused on equipping and mobilizing, will disciple, train, and release God’s people for Kingdom mission.
- **Dependence on the Holy Spirit.** The execution of the mission to make disciples and bring in the Kingdom Jesus promised would come is fully dependent on the enabling power of the Holy Spirit. Any proclamation of the Gospel must be fueled by prayer and carried out in the Spirit’s power. Without Him, we can do nothing.



The promise of these Scriptures is that we, who embrace the life-transforming message of the gospel of the Kingdom, depend on the Holy Spirit’s power, and release God’s people for mission, can expect the promise that, *“...the end will come”*. **So, let’s bring in the Kingdom by mobilizing for mission!**

Dr. Keith M. Doyle,
Senior Pastor, Calvary Bible Church



WORSHIP

Throughout this year, we gathered in prayer and worship. There was particular emphasis on the significance of having communion around the Lord's Supper. As we reflect on the salvation, life, and hope we share in Christ, we are encouraged and motivated to continue the work of proclaiming the good news of Jesus to ourselves and to those around us. During our time of preaching God's Word, we journeyed through **Exodus**, stopping to consider the **Good News and Great Joy** of God made flesh during Christmas. We paused to consider the comfort of God for those in dark **Valleys**. In September, we began a new series in **2 Corinthians**.

Our worship staff felt burdened to focus on personal and corporate prayer. A congregant came forward with a desire to start a Sunday Morning ministry team that would lift up the ministries that are happening, ask the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of those who are gathered, and be available to pray individually with those who desire. We also have begun regular Worship & Prayer nights on Sunday evenings.

We saw God raise up new faces on our worship, tech, and hospitality teams. Dozens of kids in our Kids Praise Choir helped lead God's people in worship in some of our Sunday services.

WHAT WE PRAYED FOR

We prayed that God would give us a passion for welcoming newcomers and helping them to connect with our church family in meaningful ways. Our desire was to show kindness and serve the needs of those God brings to Calvary. We are so grateful at seeing how God has answered this prayer through the hospitality, care, and concern of His people.

WINS WE WITNESSED

- A new couple at CBC attended a Meet and Greet in December and learned about the Welcome Home! class. They decided to go through Welcome Home! in March where our Director of Worship, Ross Martin, described our philosophy of worship and how to be part of leading our congregation in worship. The couple joined in membership, and the husband is now serving on the Sunday Worship Team.
- A woman came to a Meet and Greet in January and decided to begin attending CBC regularly. In June, she invited a friend to church who attended a Meet and Greet. At the Meet and Greet, this friend shared that she needed surgery at a hospital out of town, but she did not have a way to get there. One of the other newcomers volunteered to give her rides, so this woman was able to have the surgery she needed.
- A woman came to a Meet and Greet in July. When she introduced herself, she explained that she is a caregiver for her husband who has dementia. We were able to connect her with our Memory Care group who can support her and her husband.



GROW

When we hear the words "Growing Together" we tend to think of learning more about God's word and growing as followers of Jesus – and that's certainly true! But one of the biggest indicators of growth is when we move from being sideline spectators to active participants in the work that God is doing around us.

This year, we have seen people of all ages who are mobilizing to actively serve God's purposes. Each week there are hundreds of people investing in the spiritual growth of others – teachers in Sunday morning classes and Men's & Women's ministry, youth leaders who show young people what it looks like to follow God, children's ministry volunteers who share God's love with a cheerful smile, and countless more faithful servants! Our discipleship ministries wouldn't happen without an army of faithful servants mobilized for God's purposes right in our own building!

It's especially exciting to see young people begin to discover how God has wired them for ministry and start using those gifts to serve others. As important as our discipleship ministries at Calvary are, we recognize that much of what God calls us to happens outside the walls of this building. Our ministries are ultimately a training ground to equip men and women, boys and girls to be disciple makers in our homes, neighborhoods, & schools. The true impact of our ministry happens outside these walls as parents are equipped to raise their children in the Lord, and as believers of all ages are mobilized to share the love and message of Christ with all those God puts in our path.



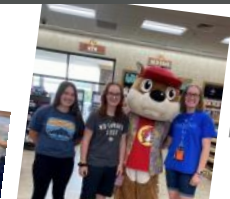
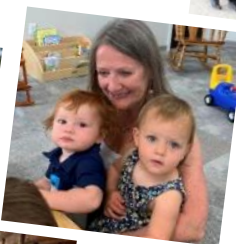
WHAT WE PRAYED FOR

We prayed that others would come alongside us to minister to families going through difficult times or facing challenging circumstances. We have seen several of our families who were facing crises receive support from other families with meals, child care, prayer, and much more! We have been thrilled to see our families grow closer together as they serve one another.

We prayed for students to fall in love with Jesus and seek him above all other pursuits. We saw this through our summer mission trip, in which 50 students committed time and resources to serving God in Fort Myers, FL. We also saw this in student involvement in discipleship groups, Bible studies, and Wednesday night involvement. We recorded over 200 instances where students shared the gospel in this last year.

WINS WE WITNESSED

- Fourth and Fifth Grade students serving with their parents.
- Teens and young adults helping create a fun and meaningful Easter experience for the elementary kids.
- Students encouraging one another to attend retreats, mission trips, and Bible studies.
- Students and young adults leading Discipleship Groups, Bible studies, and joining leadership teams of high school and college campus ministries.
- Students leading in worship, serving in children's ministry, and inviting friends to youth group.



SERVE

As a church family, we are called to serve and care for one another through sickness, death, hardship, and all stages of life. As God enables us, we desire to extend that love and care to the communities in which we live and work.

During this year, a number of our ministry teams grew as more people in the church family began serving one another. Legacy, our senior adult ministry, has continued to find ways to build community and connection in the later stages of life. Our visitation team expanded, with new volunteers making phone calls, sending cards, and visiting with congregants in need of prayer and encouragement. Our Easter offering was partially designated to support the work of pro-life ministries in our community, with over \$8000 given.

In June, Paul Nystedt was called as our Associate Pastor of Community Care. With 12 different care ministries plus the many congregants who engage with our pastoral and elder team, we knew we needed someone to build teams and coordinate our efforts. Over the past three months, Paul has been meeting with care team leaders, getting to know our congregation, and is already at work designing a process to increase our effectiveness and ensure that we connect those with needs to available resources and the members of our church family who desire to help.

WHAT WE PRAYED FOR

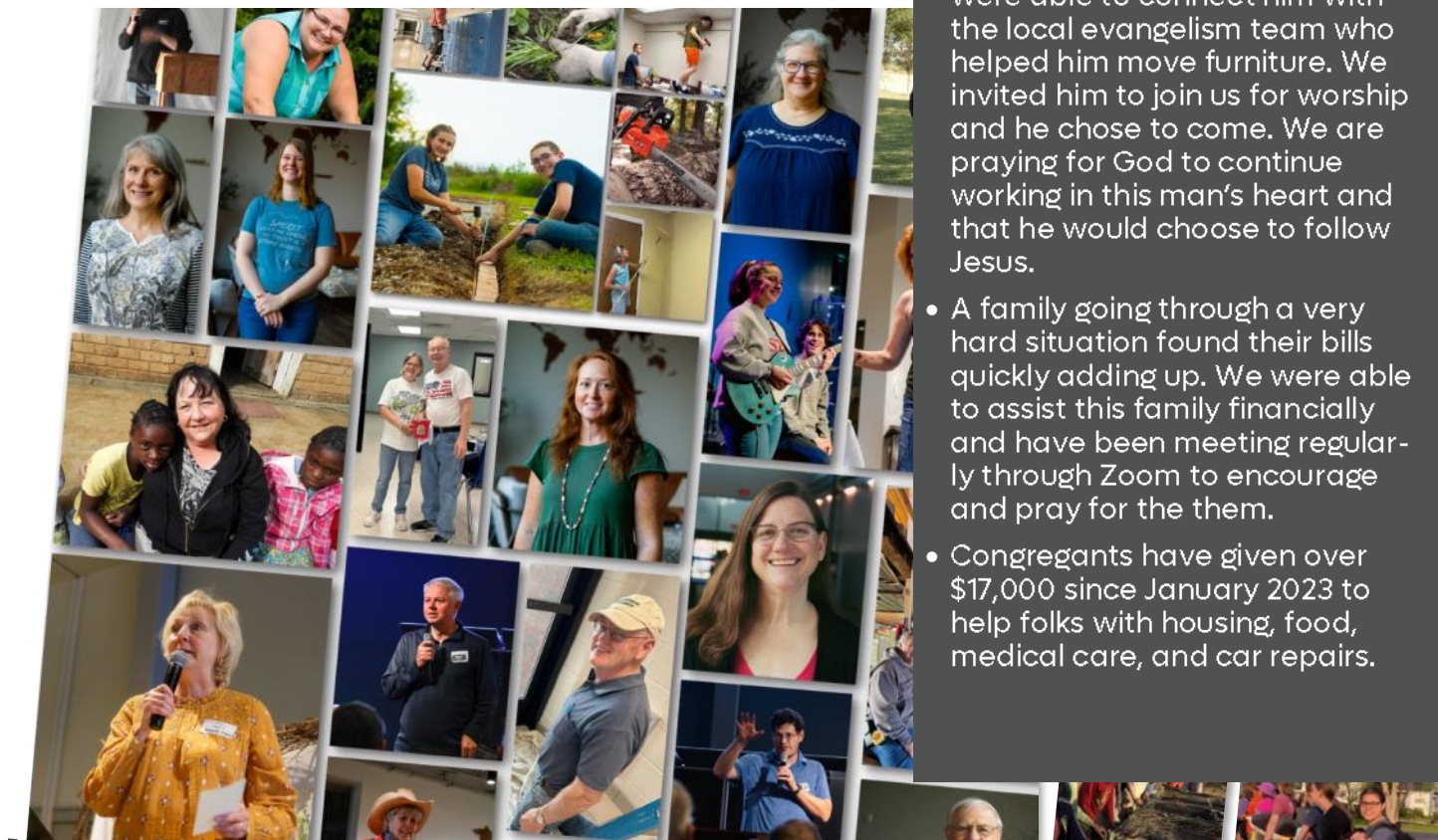
We prayed that God would provide opportunity for deeper connections with people reaching out for financial assistance. A number of applicants were connected with other ministries and believers who were able to care at a deeper level than simply financial.

We prayed for a pastor to lead and develop our many care ministries. God brought Paul Nystedt, his wife, Sarah, and their family to us in June.

We are excited at the love and compassion God has given him, and look forward to how he will guide and direct us as we show love and care for our church family and community.

WINS WE WITNESSED

- A man having hip surgery was concerned that he would not be able to pay his rent due to the recovery time. He applied for financial assistance, and we were able to connect him with the local evangelism team who helped him move furniture. We invited him to join us for worship and he chose to come. We are praying for God to continue working in this man's heart and that he would choose to follow Jesus.
- A family going through a very hard situation found their bills quickly adding up. We were able to assist this family financially and have been meeting regularly through Zoom to encourage and pray for the them.
- Congregants have given over \$17,000 since January 2023 to help folks with housing, food, medical care, and car repairs.



SHARE

This year, we saw a significant increase in participation in short-term mission trips. Our church sent out seven teams this year, with three more set to go before the end of 2023. Over 125 students, children, and adults from the Calvary family served people, shared the gospel, and supported missionaries across seven countries! They returned with transformed hearts and a growing desire to be part of what God is doing around the world.

Our missions weekend last fall was a big highlight. We hosted a dozen missionaries who engaged with the Calvary family and shared what the Lord is doing through them. 250 people of all ages participated in our featured Missions Family Event which highlighted ministry in Africa, and the ways God is using missions aviation to reach hard to access people with the gospel.

Sharing our faith in the future requires mobilizing the next generation of leaders. This year, we welcomed two summer interns to our church staff! Ethan Safford served our Youth Ministry as Michael Hansen's right hand man, helping out with all things SWAT. He also prepared Bible lessons and taught our junior high students on the week long C-Team Adventure. Kaden Miller served as a summer intern for our missions program. He got an inside look at how a church supports and cares for its missionary family and how we highlight and celebrate what God is doing around the world with our church family. It was exciting to see the heart these young men have for God, and it was an incredible opportunity for our church staff to pour into them as developing servants for the Lord!

Our Elder Development track went through its second cycle. This process includes six months of focused Bible studies, reading, discussion, and relational investment from our staff and elder team to help these men grow as shepherd leaders in the church. Many of them are already serving in a variety of ways and we want to be intentional about pouring into them as they grow as servant leaders. While this is a long-term process without a specific timeline, we were encouraged to see two participants from last year's Elder Development Group welcomed to our Elder team this year!



WHAT WE PRAYED FOR

We have been praying that God's people would be captivated by what God is doing around the world and motivated to get involved in missions by supporting and encouraging our missionaries and participating in what God is doing through short-term mission trips.

We've been praying for unity among our teams, that we would all be rowing in the same God-given direction. We established new core teams in our Missions structure, and developed and clarified our process for missionary support. We have seen God answering our prayers by directing our steps and bringing great conversations and energy in our team meetings.

WINS WE WITNESSED

- A young lady who went on the trip to Zambia is now planning to serve at Village of Hope next summer. She plans to use what she has been learning as a student at Moody Bible Institute to help their communications team build marketing and media strategies.
- Our summer missions intern attended SWAT, our youth group, and is now attending Cedarville University with a desire to pursue cross cultural ministry.
- We were able to better serve and encourage our missionary families as our regional teams faithfully communicated with our missionaries every month.
- New opportunities arise as our missions team networks with our ministry partners. Pastor Eric went to visit our missionary partner in Turkey last year. They introduced us to their good friends and pastor. Now we are preparing to send a team to facilitate a pastor's training conference in October.



SUPPORT

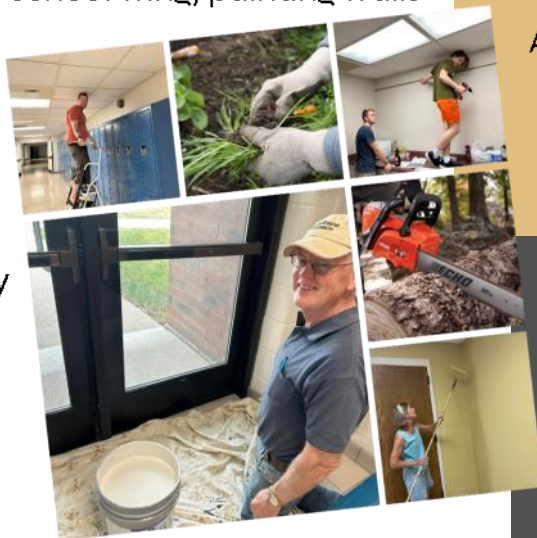
The goal of our support staff and volunteer teams is to equip, sustain, and execute as much as possible to free our ministry teams to focus on relational ministry. Over the past year, we were blessed to have hundreds of hands helping us complete projects, update ministry spaces, tackle arduous archiving tasks, and handling general office support needs such as answering phones, preparing mailings, printing and collating handouts, and replenishing and distributing supplies around the campus. We set up a rotation to have a support staff member working on Sunday mornings to assist our volunteers who serve in hospitality and discipleship ministries.

Some of the projects we were able to complete this year include repaving the driveway, updating ceilings and lighting in the middle school wing, painting walls and trim in a number of areas, cleaning up the trees around the property, and organizing a number of storage areas. Our partnership with Valley Christian School expanded as they moved their middle school up from Oshkosh, bringing the number of students on our campus to 272. Coordinating this expansion with the increase we have witnessed in various ministries that use our facility throughout the week has only been possible because of the many volunteers who have served and a commitment by our staff and ministry leaders to be flexible and gracious.

Financially, the willingness of our church family to give to ministries through our annual budget, fund many mission trips through fundraising events, donate to special offerings, and pay down our debt from the expansion has been astounding!

We have reached an exciting milestone!
We are less than \$1 million away from paying for the expansion.

With the help of members of the finance committee, we have been modernizing our accounting and payroll platforms. It is truly a blessing to see so many people share the burden of supporting and funding the ministry that God has called us to as a church.



WHAT WE PRAYED FOR

We prayed for additional office staff support to help our ministry admins. At the Ministry Fair, a number of congregants expressed interest in helping, and four are now being trained in the mystery of routing phone calls, tracking down shared files, and keeping the printer up and running.

Our maintenance and logistic needs have been a matter of prayer and concern. The increase in ministry activity is exciting but requires additional support. In May, we welcomed Ryan Conant to our facilities team. His skills and capacity have enabled us to support church ministries and continue growing our partnership with Valley Christian School to provide Christian Education in the Fox Cities.

We prayed for a summer of recovery. After three summers packed with COVID, construction, remodeling, and updating, our facilities team needed time to catch up on maintenance, repairs, and small projects. It was so satisfying to be able to close out a number of projects.

WINS WE WITNESSED

- Staff/volunteer collaboration to handle logistics, communication, technology, and hospitality for unexpected events.
- A new couple has stepped up to help lead the funeral serving team, which was an answer to the prayers of Kris Edge and the entire team!
- A team of ten volunteers who faithfully assist our office staff on a weekly basis.
- A volunteer base of over 400, each with skills and passions who are willing to serve when the opportunity arises.
- Our staff and ministry leaders were equipped with a resource they can use to help people find ways to serve in the church family. Our Ministry Fair and Fall Kickoff guide has been a huge help for those looking to get connected.



JEFF LUNDEEN BRIEF BIOGRAPHY

I was raised in a Christian home and was baptized around the age of eight. My father was a deacon in my childhood church, and he and my mother instilled in me a love for God and the desire to serve others. I have been blessed with a good Christian wife, Sunhi, and we have been married for 46 years. Our children have carried on the faith. Kristina, our daughter, is with Athletes in Action and our son, Erik, is a pastor.

I believe that a Christian, out of a grateful heart for the gift he has received, should serve others and their local church. As a member of Calvary Bible Church, I am involved in a variety of ways: small group Bible study, member of the Finance Committee, mentor to the Community of Parents class, New Commandment ministries, volunteer at Fair Market Thrift Store, and worked two summers on the church remodel.

NEW MISSIONARY FAMILY— BEN & MERCEDES PLITT

Ben and Mercedes grew up hearing stories about missionaries overseas. They loved hearing how God accomplished the impossible!

“Previously unreached people groups were reading and hearing God’s Word in their own language and churches were being built in the most remote places.” In each of these stories, God’s Word changed the hearts and lives of people who had ears to hear. Now, they desire to be part of that story carrying God’s Word beyond the end of the road!

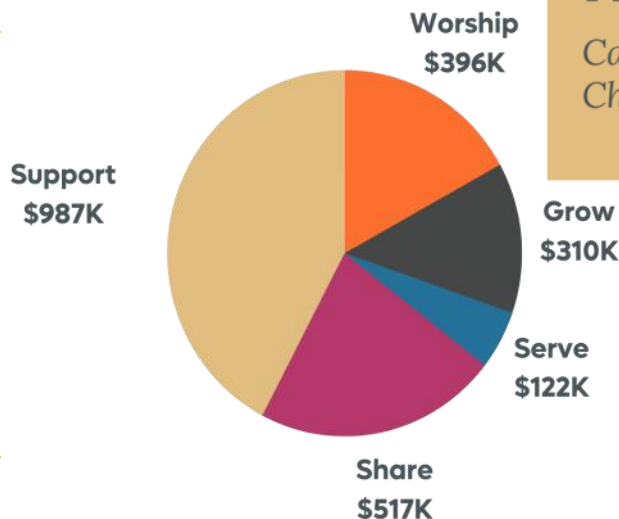
Four years ago, Ben and Mercedes felt led into the field of missionary aviation. However, the unreached are unreached because they are not easy to reach. Airplanes play a strategic role in carrying the Gospel to remote regions and there is a big need for qualified airplane mechanics and pilots right now.

Ben & Mercedes began this journey trusting that God would show them the way and He did. God led them to MMS Aviation’s Pilot/Mechanic Apprenticeship program in Coshocton, Ohio. Ben will serve as a missionary aircraft mechanic for thirty months with MMS before serving as a pilot for two years with Missionary Air Group. After that time, they’ll be experienced, qualified, and certified to fix and fly aircraft in support of expanding God’s kingdom through the Great Commissions in remote hard to reach areas of the world.



Our proposed giving budget for 2023/2024 is \$2.33M which is a 3% increase over 2022/2023 projected giving.

Worship	\$396,000
Grow	\$310,000
Serve	\$122,000
Share	\$517,000
Support	\$987,000
Total	\$2,331,000



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