

calvary Kids!

PARENT HANDBOOK





Welcome to Calvary Kids! Our mission is to partner with parents as we disciple each child to know, love, and obey God for His glory.

Parents are the primary disciplers of their children!
(Deut. 6:4-9)

Have you checked out the Parent Hub on our website? Here, you'll find a myriad of resources to inspire, encourage, and equip you to do the most important job God's called you to do!



As we work together to disciple children in and through Calvary Church, our goal is that every child will *belong*, *believe* and *become*.*

BELONG – We are intentional about creating a highly relational ministry that is led by loving and caring adults... so that every child will feel known and loved here at Calvary Church.

BELIEVE - We provide a deeply Scriptural ministry that is rooted in the truth of God's Word, and the power of the gospel... so that every child will believe that the Bible is the source of truth and that eternal life is found in Jesus alone.

BECOME – We teach and model what it looks like to live out the truths of God's Word... trusting that the Holy Spirit will grow each believing child to become more like Jesus.

Thank you for entrusting your precious children to us. As you read through the pages of this handbook, we hope that you will see how intentional we are in taking your trust and our responsibility very seriously! If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of our Calvary Kids team.

*P.S. – Our inspiration for *Belong*, *Believe*, and *Become* came from one of our favorite kids' ministry books titled *Resilient* by Valerie Bell. It is not a book just for ministry leaders, but for parents as well. We highly recommend it to you!



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General Information

General Information

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General Information

Our Vision

Children pursuing life in Christ.

Calvary Church's Core Values

Loving God...

by knowing Him personally and worshiping Him collectively.

Living God's Word...

by learning what it means and doing what it says.

Growing with God's People...

by relating authentically with others for their good and my growth

Going into God's World...

by extending the gospel to others right here and around the world.

Investing in God's Work...

as stewards of God's gifts and servants in God's plan

General Information

Calvary Kids Team



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General Information



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General Information

Family Worship and Programming

We highly value families worshipping together in our intergenerational worship service. Children are a vital part of the church body and have a God-given capacity to worship. We believe that, when children join the main service with their families, they grow in faith, learn from example, and understand they belong in the life of the church.

To support families, we've designed Calvary Kids programming with flexibility. No matter which service you choose to attend, your child can participate in both the worship service and their age appropriate learning environment.

What to Expect on Sundays

Each Sunday, you can choose how your child participates:

- One hour of worship with the whole family in the main service.
- One hour of Calvary Kids, where children experience age-specific teaching and activities.

This rhythm allows children to be both included in worship and engaged in age-appropriate Bible lessons to help them grow in their understanding of faith.

For the main worship service, we provide:

- Kids Notes: Weekly bulletins for elementary students to help them follow along with the sermon.
- Coloring pages for non-readers.
- Drawing/writing pages for early readers.
- We occasionally offer a class called *Engaging Kids in Worship* as a tool to help you guide your children to be active worshipers. Check out our weekly bulletin or Life@Calvary email newsletter to stay up to date on when this class is offered.

Sunday Mornings

Classroom Time Schedule

Doors open 15 minutes before each service

- 8:00am** Birth through Pre-K
9:30am Birth through 6th grade
11:00am Birth through 6th grade

General Information

Age Group Specifics

Nursery–Pre-K

- Available at 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am
- Curriculum is similar at all hours, with varied activities to support age-appropriate biblical learning.
- Children can stay in class for multiple hours if the family attends a service or class and/or serves.

Kindergarten–6th Grade

- Children may attend worship with their families during any service hour.
- Calvary Kids Sunday School is available at 9:30 and 11:00am.
 - **Kindergarten–2nd Grade:** Because we understand that all kids don't develop at the same time, we have made some adaptations to the curriculum so that you can choose to have your K-2 kids go to a second hour of Sunday School, where activities will be slightly different each hour. If you choose this option, we recommend that you occasionally take your kids into the worship service with you.
 - **3rd–6th Grade:**
 - The Sunday School lesson will be exactly the same at 9:30 and 11:00am.
 - If possible, we recommend that families choose a consistent hour for their kids to attend class, as this will help them foster relationships both with their peers and their leaders.

Wednesday Evenings (September–April)

Kids Choir, 6:00-6:30pm (Kindergarten–6th Grade, *pre-registration required*)

Little Discovery Clubs, 6:30-8:00pm

(6 months–Pre-Kindergarten, *pre-registration required*)

- Doors open at 6:15pm and pickup is at 8:00pm.

Discovery Clubs, 6:30-8:00pm (Kindergarten–6th Grade)

- Kids learn about God's heart for the world and how they can participate in His plan.
- They participate in a variety of learning activities and experiences while having fun and building friendships.
- Doors open at 6:15pm, pickup at 8:00pm

General Information

Evacuation Instructions



We have procedures in place for several emergency scenarios. In the event of an evacuation, **DO NOT come to your child's classroom**. Instead, exit according to the evacuation plan for your section of the building and meet your child at their designated staging area.

Your child will be cared for by the classroom team and will exit the building with his/her class. Final evacuation locations for each classroom will be emailed to parents at the beginning of the ministry year. If you did not receive this information, please stop by a Connection Center to request it.

Please **DO NOT** take your child from the parking lot **without** letting the classroom team know. They will release him/her to you after attendance is taken and you show proper identification (parent receipt or photo ID).

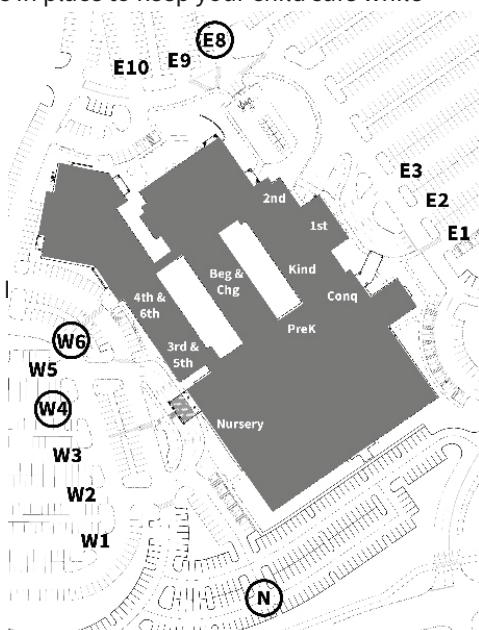
Once you have picked up your child, please proceed to your vehicle. However, you must **remain in your parking spot** until all emergency vehicles have arrived and the authorities have given you permission to leave.

For other emergencies, we have plans in place to keep your child safe while you keep yourself safe.

Staging Areas

Locate your child's staging area on the map.

- **Sunday Nursery**
 - Staging Area N
- **Sunday 8:00 AM & Wednesday**
 - Staging Area E8
- **Early Childhood**
 - Staging Area E8
- **1st & 2nd Grades**
 - Staging Area E8
- **3rd-6th Grades**
 - Staging Area W4 and W6
- **Conquerors Class**
 - Staging Area E8



General Information

Check-In Process

Regular Attenders

We ask that you check in each family member at one of the kiosks located throughout the building. They are stationed on both sides of the lobby and at the playground and Calvary Preschool entrance lobbies. This process will help us know the location of each family member throughout the morning. This is very important in case we need to locate a parent. It is important that you check in for each hour that you will be attending.

The system will print off a name badge for each child and a parent receipt that must be shown at our security checkpoints when dropping off and picking up your child(ren). All of our Calvary Kids hallways are secure areas of the building. The parent receipt is needed to access these secure hallways and has a security code that matches the security code on each child's name badge.

Guests

We love when guests visit us. Please stop by a Connection Center (located at either end of the lobby) to register your child to attend Calvary Kids classrooms. They will provide you with a temporary parent receipt and name badge(s) for each of your children every week. Connection Center staff will also escort you around the building to drop off your children and introduce them to our Calvary Kids team members.

If, after visiting several times, you decide that you would like to make Calvary Church your church home, please let the Connection Center staff know. They will give you a New Family Form (green sheet) to fill out and return. Your children will then be added to our class rosters, and you will be able to check in at any of our kiosks instead of visiting a Connection Center.

General Information

Drop Off

Nursery and Early Childhood

Please complete the sign-in sheet at your child's room each week. If an adult other than the parent will be picking up your child, please let the classroom team know. **For Nursery and Early Childhood, a parent/guardian must be on site during any ministry hour.**

Nursery

Please **wash your child's hands** with the provided wipes at drop-off time, **label your child's belongings** each week, and **label your child's small diaper bag** with the second name tag printed at the kiosk. Place the bag on the designated shelf with the name tag pointed to the caregivers, so they can easily identify and retrieve belongings.

Early Childhood

Parents need to **sign in their child** on the clipboard just outside of each classroom every week. Please indicate where you will be during each ministry hour so we know how to reach you. Place your child's name tag in the plastic clip-on tag provided under the clipboard outside of the classroom.

Help your child develop the **habit of using the restroom before** he/she enters the classroom. If your child is potty training, there are orange tags available outside the classroom with the clipboard to clip to your child's shirt. This will be a visual reminder for the workers in your child's room. For younger children, we strongly suggest you bring a change of clothing in a labeled bag, in case they have an accident.



General Information

Elementary

Grades K-4: Parents must accompany their children to the classroom to check them in.

Grades 5-6: Children may go to the classroom unescorted, but they need a name badge to enter the hallway.

Please help your child develop the habit of using the restroom before he/she enters the classroom. This way they will not lose any valuable time in studying God's Word and engaging with other kids and small group leaders. If there is an emergency, they will be allowed to visit the restroom.

Pick Up

At pick-up time, you will be required to show your parent receipt (printed at check in) at all classrooms.

In **Early Childhood classes**, please remove your child's name tag from the plastic pocket and return the pocket to the bin in the hallway.

Grades K-4: Parents must pick up their kids at the end of class.

Grades 5-6: C56 students are dismissed independently at the end of each ministry hour; there is no parent check-out process. Please establish a predetermined meeting location with your child and ensure they know where to meet you after class. Parents are responsible for the supervision of their children before and after each ministry hour.

General Information

Security

We desire to be a safe place where your children will be loved, well cared for, and pointed to Jesus each and every time they are in our ministry environments. We have protocols in place to keep your child protected in our classrooms, and we have detailed plans in place to care for your child in multiple emergency situations.

Our team members go through a screening process, and our hallways are secured. Approved team members can be identified by their photo ID badge attached to their green lanyard. If you have other questions about your child's safety, please contact kids@calvarychurch.org.

Contacting Parents

If your child has a need during the ministry hour that we are unable to meet, we will contact a parent/guardian initially by text. At the check-in kiosk, you will be prompted to identify a contact person for the day who is designated to receive text messages. **Also at check-in, please be sure to check yourself in so that we know your location.**

If we cannot reach you by text, the security code from your parent security receipt will display on each projection screen in the front of the main auditorium. If you are elsewhere in the building, a team member will be sent to find you.

Two-Worker Rule

Two approved workers must be present in a classroom of children at all times. Please do not drop your child off in a classroom without at least two workers present. It is our policy that a child is never alone with a volunteer.

Child Protection Policy

Calvary Church has a Child Protection Policy that provides a comprehensive plan to protect our children from the betrayal and crime of child abuse.

General Information

Playground Use

Children using the playground during non-ministry hours must be directly supervised by a parent or adult guardian. Children too old for supervision are too old for the playground.

Ministry hours when playground is unavailable include:

- Sundays: 9:30–10:30am & 11:20am–12:00pm
- Monday–Thursday (September–June): 9:00am–1:00pm



Health & Wellness Policy

Is your child healthy today?

In an effort to provide a healthy and safe environment for all of our children and staff, we ask that children and adults only be in our classrooms when they are healthy. If they have any of the following symptoms or illnesses, please do not attend class:

- | | |
|---|---|
| - Cold, Flu, Covid | - Diarrhea (for any reason) |
| - Thick Green or Yellow Mucus | - Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye) |
| - Discharge from the nose | - Rash |
| - Persistent coughing | - Lice |
| - Fever (within the past 24 hours without medication) | - Any Contagious Illnesses, including: |
| - Vomiting (within the past 24 hours without medication) | Measles |
| | Mumps |
| | Active Chicken Pox |

If your child has an **EpiPen®**, make sure it is in a sealed plastic bag and labeled with the child's name. Inform a team member working in your child's room of its presence each time you come to the classroom.

If a child is being treated with antibiotics, they should be on the medicine for at least 24 hours before coming to class. If a child has an allergy-related symptom, please notify the child's teacher.

Thank you for helping us to provide a healthy environment for each of our children, staff, and volunteers.

General Information

Food Allergies & Snacks

Food Allergies

Please make sure we are aware of your child's serious allergies. Our classroom volunteers have allergy lists and will refer to them before serving any snacks.

For Nursery and Early Childhood, be sure to place a **red allergy sticker**, obtained at a kiosk or the classroom, on their name tag as a secondary precaution. This is especially important for younger children who may not be able to communicate their allergy to our volunteers.

Snacks

For health and safety reasons, we enforce a **NUT FREE ENVIRONMENT**.

Nursery

We regularly feed the children Cheerios®, as their development allows. If your child has an allergy, we will be happy to feed him/her a similar snack that you provide. Please do not bring baby food. Our caregivers may not have time to spoon-feed the children. You are welcome to join us in the classroom to feed your child.

Early Childhood

Goldfish® and water are served regularly as a snack at the end of the 9:30 hour. Occasionally, crafts or learning centers involve other food items. Cheerios® may be requested by the parent for gluten allergies.

Kindergarten-4th Grade

Kindergarten-4th grade classes only provide snacks occasionally.

Special Dietary Needs

If your child needs an alternate snack, please provide something similar to the snack in their age group that **does not contain nuts**. If your child needs a special cup or utensil, please bring that along, and clearly label it with their name.

General Information

Reaching Your Child's Heart

Our Mission

Partnering with parents as we disciple each child to know, love, and obey God for His glory.

Our desire is to use every teachable moment to accomplish that mission and help your child build the inner character they need to follow the Lord in every area of life. Those moments happen not only during Bible lessons, but also as we help them to make honoring choices in their words and actions.

More than simply obeying a set of rules, God desires that we live and behave in such a way that others are drawn to Him. We will encourage and challenge your children to think of their words and behavior in terms of honoring God, His Word, their leaders, others, and property.

*“God is interested in hearts because that’s where real and lasting change takes place.”**

When children make choices that are dishonoring, we will address both the behavior and the heart issue.

*“Trying to change behavior will be fruitless without also re-writing what the child believes and says in his/her heart.”**

* Quotes from Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller of the National Center for Biblical Parenting.
For more information on their parenting material and training available through Calvary Church, contact George May by calling the church office at (717) 560-2341 or emailing gmay@calvarychurch.org.

Nursery & Early Childhood

Obey. Be Kind. Show Honor.

In Nursery & Early Childhood classrooms, children will be taught these three basic guidelines in honoring God. When a child makes a dishonoring choice, we will move through the following steps, progressing to the next only as needed:

1. Clarify expectations and remind the child of a better choice.
2. Ask the child to take a “break”—a quiet time removed from the group to think about **what** he is doing wrong, **why** it is dishonoring, and what he will **do differently**. For our younger children, our caregivers will sit with the child, explaining this in a short, simple conversation.
3. As needed, issue a consequence such as missing out on an activity or, when necessary, calling the child’s parent.

General Information

After each step, we will bring discipline times to a positive conclusion and give the child a fresh start. This is done by asking three basic questions:

1. **“What did you do wrong?”**
2. **“Why was it wrong?”**
3. **“What are you going to do differently next time?”**

The child will then be encouraged to **“go ahead and try again.”**

For our younger children, we answer these three questions for and with them. We ask the questions so that the child can get used to hearing the questions and answers, and one day answer them on their own.

Elementary

Honor Shines is a common theme in our classrooms! As children make honoring choices, not only do they shine but, far more importantly, God shines through them.

In our classrooms, our desire is to help each child learn to make choices regarding their words and behavior that will honor God, His Word, their leaders, their peers, and even those who have to clean and take care of our facilities.



General Information



Bibles

We make it a priority to have our kids use their Bibles every time they attend Calvary Kids. **Please help your child develop a habit of bringing their Bible to class.** We use the English Standard Version (ESV), which is available for sale in the church library.

Electronic Devices

We ask that elementary-aged children not use an electronic version of the Bible in our classrooms for the following reasons:

We have observed that many of the students using an electronic Bible tend to “scroll” needlessly and disengage from the lesson. Their distraction by the device itself leads to less connection and interaction with the Scripture. We believe most children have not yet developed the maturity to be able to handle the distraction of using electronics in large group settings.

We have observed that many of the students in our classes who do not own electric devices are particularly intrigued and distracted by the one in their neighbor’s hands.

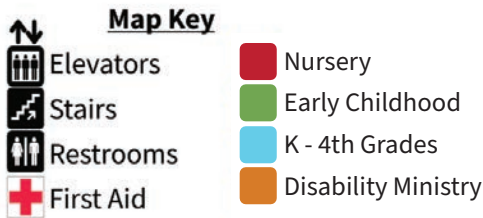
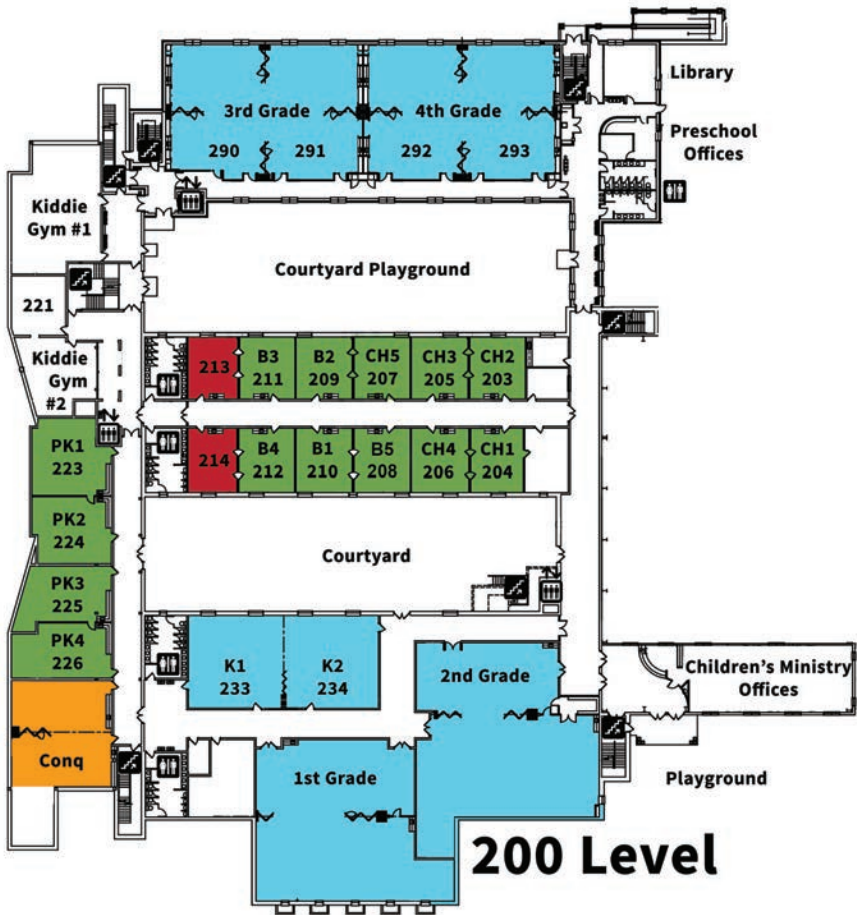
We want our elementary children to understand how the Bible is organized and fits together. There is value in them understanding the placement of the books in a larger context of the whole Bible. That can easily be lost when a book can be found at the touch of a button. As they grow in their understanding, they will bring that understanding to the use of a Bible on a device.

Many of the children with electronics tend to interact far less with their peers. One of our goals at this age is to help children form solid friendships here at church, and we have observed that electronics can be a real deterrent.

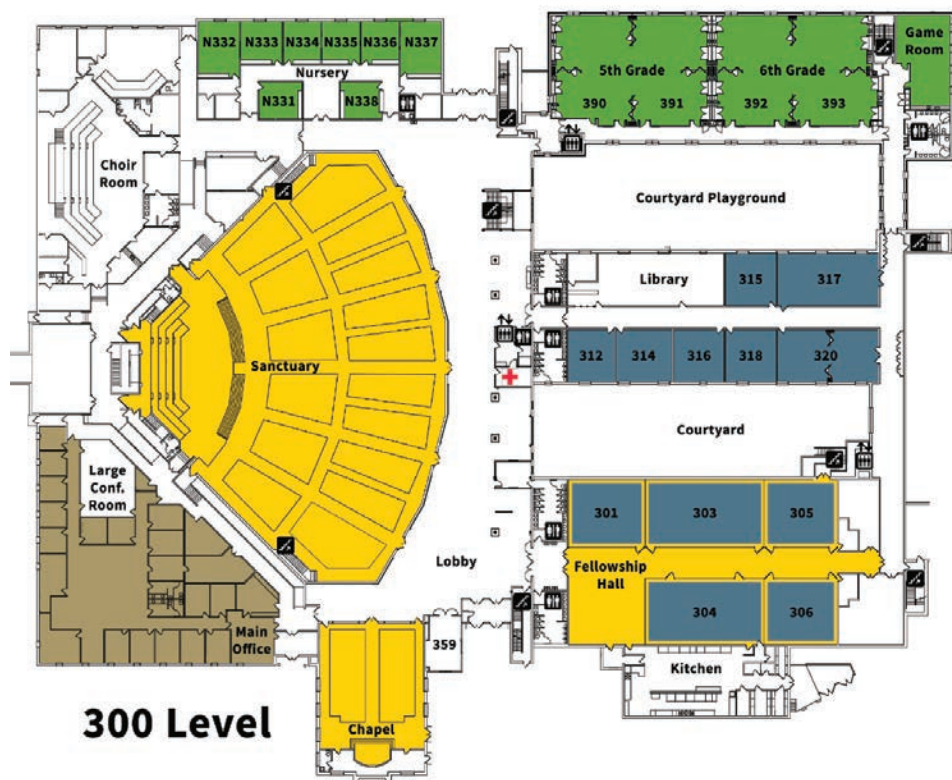
We recognize the need to constantly think through the best way to make use of technology. Please be assured that we will continue to dialogue regarding this topic. Thank you for cooperating with us at this point in time as we ask the children to refrain from using devices in our classrooms.

General Information

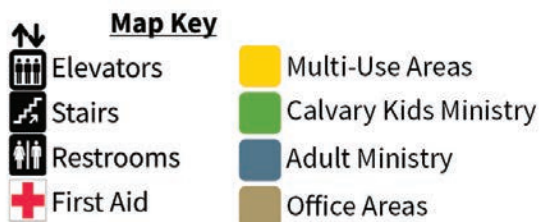
Maps



General Information



300 Level



Nursery

Nursery

I am so excited to welcome you to the Calvary Church nursery ministry! It is such a privilege to be able to serve our youngest children and maintain a safe and welcoming environment for them. We have the honor to share biblical truths to these young children to start shaping their hearts and minds from the start, so that they experience the true love of the body of Christ!

Not only that, we get an incredible privilege to partner with parents as they begin to disciple their child at such a young age! Every positive interaction, encouraging smile, and reassuring word makes a huge difference in the lives of each family here at Calvary Church. It is so important that the parents feel cared for as much as we care for their child.

Along with serving the parents and children in the nursery, you get the chance to serve alongside other brothers and sisters in Christ cultivating a team environment within your classroom. This handbook contains important information about being part of our team—how to interact with parents, serve our kids well, and how to work with other volunteers and how to honor them in the process.

I am grateful and honored to walk alongside you as you serve our little ones and their families and show them the love of Jesus by helping them to *pursue life in Christ*.



Mollie Ayers

Mollie Ayers

Director of Nursery Ministries

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FAQs

What should I bring to the Nursery?

Bring a **small** diaper bag with only items needed for the day. We recommend:

- **Diapers**
- **Change of Clothing**
- **Comfort item**—such as a pacifier or blanket
- **Bottles:** Have water already in the bottle and provide pre-measured formula in a small container so that it can be easily mixed when needed
- **Cup:** labeled with your child's name

Please label all personal items each time you come to the Nursery. Stickers are available for this purpose at the sign-in area.

At what age can my child be left in the Nursery?

You may leave children with us as early as you are comfortable doing so. Every August, there is a promotion out of the Nursery and into the Early Childhood Department for children who will turn two by August 31. Otherwise, they stay with us another year.

Will my child stay in the same Nursery room all year?

In order to maintain safe ratios and to provide age-appropriate learning materials, your child will be promoted within the Nursery periodically. You will be informed when your child needs to move to a new classroom.

What if my child needs me?

We will not let your child cry for more than 15 minutes before contacting you.

What kind of health or hygiene procedures are used?

Our volunteers use standard precautions to help keep your child healthy. That means:

- They use a glove when dealing with bodily fluids.
- They wash their hands often.
- Toys are washed every time the nursery is open.
- Rooms are thoroughly cleaned each week.
- Our caregivers will not serve in the Nursery if they are sick.

Please bring your child to the Nursery only when he/she is well.

Nursery

Will you change my child's diaper or toilet my child?

It is our goal to check each child's diaper at least once while they are with us. If your child is potty training, please take him to the bathroom before class. Feel free to use the child-sized toilet in our class bathroom. Also, clip an orange potty-training tag to your child's shirt to help remind our caregivers to take your child to the bathroom during class. If you feel your child will need to use the bathroom more than once during each hour, please help our caregivers by toileting your child between ministry hours or during class. We suggest you bring a change of clothes in case of accidents.

Is a private Mother and Baby room available?

Two mother and baby rooms are available in the Nursery suite where our worship services are live streamed. A changing table is provided for your convenience. You will need to show your parent security receipt when entering the Nursery. An additional mother and baby area is available in the Women's Restroom on the 400 level. Please only use the Mother and Baby room for nursing your baby.

The Family Care room on the 300 level is the place to go if your child needs some snuggle time with mom or dad outside of the classroom. You can view the Worship service live on the screen there.





Child Dedication

Child Dedication at Calvary is a public commitment made by parents indicating their desire to help their child *pursue life in Christ*. To participate in a Sunday morning dedication event, you must first review some material online and attend a child dedication class designed to introduce basic principles of spiritual parenting and to acquaint your family with Calvary Kids. For more information and to register for the class, visit calvarychurch.org/childdedication



Nursery

Curriculum



We use curriculum created around the Toddler Bible, which has been adapted by our own staff and volunteers.

Why use curriculum in the Nursery?

Your child is receiving intentional teaching about our God every time they enter the Nursery doors. And why not? As your child's brain develops new pathways to learning, we *should* be linking that learning to God and His truth.

Infants

Each time your child enters the classroom, we pray Scripture passages aloud to God on their behalf. Your child is not only being prayed for, he/she is hearing God's Word as well. Need some ideas of what to pray for your child? Ask your caregiver what was prayed over your child today. What will God be pleased to do in the life of your child because of the prayers of his or her parents and caregivers?



Young Toddlers

In addition to being prayed for, your young toddlers also hear a new Truth Statement each month. Truth Statements are short phrases that caregivers repeat throughout the session. These are Bible truths like, "God Made Everything," "God is Good," and "Jesus is Here!"

For deeper learning, we connect these truths to your child's environment. Here is how these truths might come up in conversations:

"I see your fingers. God made your fingers. GOD MADE EVERYTHING!"

Or

"Here is our snack. GOD IS GOOD to give us food to eat."

Children learn through repetition, and we are interested in helping your child's brain make pathway connections to spiritual things. Therefore, we will repeat these simple truths over and over all month, with the ultimate goal of these truths contributing to changing your child's heart. To find out what Truth Statement we are working on this month, check out the parent bulletin board in the Nursery hallway.

Older Toddlers

For our oldest children, the Truth Statement becomes the core of the curriculum. It is the main point of the Bible lesson, and it is reinforced through hands-on, age-appropriate activities. Children will also learn a simple memory verse each month, related to the Bible lesson. Parents are encouraged to practice these verses at home, too. Each week, a take-home page is available to parents in our oldest toddler rooms. It includes the Truth Statement, the Bible story reference, the memory verse, and often some suggested activities for you to do at home for reinforcement of the Bible truths presented in class. *A complete list of Truth Statements, Bible Stories, and Memory Verses, are available in the Nursery. You can use it all year long as a tool to help you lay a sure foundation in the life of your child.*

Additional Resources

For more resources and activity ideas, visit calvarychurch.org/parenthub.

Early Childhood

Early Childhood

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Calvary Church's Early Childhood ministry! We have a committed group of team members whose greatest desire is that your child will be deeply rooted in God's Word and *pursue life in Christ* as he/she grows and develops a deep love for Him. Also, it is our hearts' desire that your child will learn to reach out with the message of God's love to their friends, their community, and ultimately, the nations. We count it a privilege to partner with you!

Our Early Childhood Ministry is divided into three main age groups:

Beginners - Red Signs (ages 2–3)

Changers - Blue Signs (ages 3–4)

Pre-K - Yellow Signs (ages 4–5)

I have a wonderful team of key leaders who serve as the coordinators for these various age groups. They are available on Sunday mornings at the beginning of each ministry hour to assist you in any way.

It is my pleasure to serve you and your family as I work alongside our dedicated team. I trust that Calvary Church's Early Childhood ministry will be a place where your child grows in connecting with God, with caring leaders, and with new friends!



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Genine Zigrang". The script is cursive and elegant.

Genine Zigrang

Director of Early
Childhood Ministries

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Early Childhood

Sunday 9:30 and 11:00

Curriculum: *Children Desiring God (John Piper), the Gospel Project, and Calvary Custom Curriculum*

Beginners	A Sure Foundation: The children will be taught 13 Bible truths throughout the year. Each lesson is repeated for four weeks, with a variety of activities and learning centers each week to reinforce the concepts and Bible truths.
Changers	A chronological teaching of Old Testament stories with the aim of acquainting each child with our great, big God. Key themes: GOD HEARS OUR PRAYERS and GOD IS MOST POWERFUL
Pre-K	A chronological teaching of New Testament stories with the aim of acquainting each child with the one story of the Bible and the redemptive work of Jesus. Key themes: JESUS IS SAVIOR and JESUS IS GOD'S SON

Learning Centers

Bible lessons are taught through a variety of age-appropriate activities and hands-on learning, which all focus on one Bible truth.

Bible Memory

Children will learn a simple Bible verse each month. Parents are encouraged to practice these verses at home each week as well. Bible verses are listed on at calvarychurch.org/parenthub

Take Home Papers

Each week, the take home pages include the story title, Scripture reference, and key themes of the lesson. They give parents some suggested discussion questions to assist you in reinforcing and building upon the Bible truths presented in class.

Song Lists

Children will learn some familiar and some new Sunday School songs. Many of these songs can be found at calvarychurch.org/parenthub

Early Childhood

Little Discovery Clubs

Developing a heart for the world!

God has called us to **declare our God's glory!**

Psalm 96:2-5

- 2 Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 **Declare his glory among the nations,**
his marvelous works among all the peoples!
- 4 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.



Curriculum

Children ages 2 through Pre-K learn about missions by first learning about how God made the world and all the people in it. The Great Commission includes all of us, even if our mission field is our very own neighborhood.

The children learn about local missions, Calvary Church ministries, or our very own Calvary Church Global Partners!

Note: Doors open at 6:15pm. A parent must be on site at all times.

Pre-registration is required, and space is limited for kids whose parents are serving or both attending a ministry. Please contact Genine Zigrang to register your children: (717) 560-2341 ext. 321 or gmzigrang@calvarychurch.org

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Kindergarten - 4th Grade

Kindergarten-4th Grade

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Calvary Church's K-4 ministry, where we desire to disciple each child to know, love, and obey God for His glory! We believe that no one has more of an impact on your children than you do! You are the primary spiritual influence in their lives. It is our desire to come alongside you and to partner with you in your children's spiritual development. We count it a privilege to be a part of what God is doing in their young lives!

We are thankful for our committed team members who love to encourage kids to dig deep into God's Word, to respond to Him in faith and obedience, and to reach out to others with the message of His love.

It is an absolute joy to serve your family! I truly believe this will be a place where your child connects with God, with caring leaders, and with new friends!



Kylie Martin

Kylie Martin

Director of K - 4 Ministries

kmartin@calvarychurch.org

(717) 560-2341 x738

Kindergarten - 4th Grade

Sundays: 9:30 and 11:00am

Focus: Engaging with the one story of the Bible.

Curriculum



Kindergarten: In Kindergarten, we welcome our kids to Treasure Island, where God’s Word is like a lighthouse, a “lamp to our feet and a light to our path.” We set sail on a one-year journey through God’s Big Story, helping them see how all of the stories of the Bible are interconnected and connected to Jesus.

We take 1st–4th graders through the one story of the Bible two times.



1st and 2nd Grade: Our Treasure Island theme encourages the children to “dig for treasures in God’s Big Story” and discover that God Himself is the greatest treasure of all!



3rd and 4th Grades: They journey through the Bible a second time as “FBI agents” or Faithful Bible Investigators! Using their Bibles weekly, they investigate the stories and truths in God’s Word so that they can be agents on mission for God!

Small Groups

We value *growing with God’s people*. We strongly believe that children will connect best and grow the most in a small group where they can connect with consistent leaders and the same group of children week to week.

Take Home Paper

Each week, kids in kindergarten–4th grade will bring home a take-home paper that will help you, the parent, engage with your child about the story and truths learned week to week. Included in the take-home paper for 1st–4th graders will be a weekly devotional bookmark listing Bible readings that review their Sunday School lesson. This is a tool you can use to encourage your child to spend time in God’s Word at home, together with you, or alone.

Kindergarten - 4th Grade

Discovery Clubs: *Developing God's Heart for the World* Wednesday Nights (September–April)

Curriculum

Kindergarten

In kindergarten, we use a curriculum based on teaching from *Foundation Worldview* (foundationworldview.com). It is so important that our little ones begin to understand that there is *truth* and that it is found in God and His Word. Our desire is that our kids will develop a strong biblical worldview that is rooted in the *truth* of Scripture. Our prayer is that, as they grow in their understanding and belief, they will live out the beauty and goodness that is found in a relationship with Jesus so that others will want to know and worship Him too!



1st Grade

In first grade, we focus on the life of Jesus. It's a good place to start on our elementary missions journey because God desires for everyone to have a relationship with Him through His Son, Jesus. He's the source of the good news of the gospel! In addition to studying the life of Christ each week, we will also "travel" to several different countries. We'll have fun playing games, making crafts, and even occasionally sampling foods.

2nd Grade

Our second graders will be "On a Mission" to learn more about God's heart for the world, how the gospel spreads, the need for people all around the world to have the good news in their heart language, our Global Partners who are spreading the good news through a variety of jobs and methods, and about other countries and cultures—all filled with people God loves!

3rd Grade

We will learn to **W.R.A.P. the World in Prayer!** and share Jesus using a cool tool called the EvangeCube! We will be introduced to our Calvary Church Global Partners who serve in Europe and use a variety of games, crafts, and food to introduce the students to a variety of European cultures.

4th Grade

God gives us the awesome privilege of being used to make His name known around the world! We'll learn that we can do that by getting involved as **prayers, givers, senders, connectors, welcomers, and goers**. We will also learn about Bible translation and the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators.

General Information

Read Around the World

Kids will be invited to participate in our *Read Around the World* missions reading incentive program. Information will be sent home with your child in October and will be available in the library throughout the year.

Kids Choir: Kindergarten–6th Grade

Kids Choir is designed to help children develop their musical talents, so they can lead others in worship and bring glory to God as they sing for Him. Kids Choir is open to children from Kindergarten through 6th grade. They will have the opportunity to lead in worship services four times during the school year. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-6:30pm. Registration is required to join Kids Choir, with a commitment to attend rehearsals regularly. Please visit calvarychurch.org/kidschoir to register your children and find out more details about Kids Choir.

Children will meet in the following rooms:

Kindergarten & 1st Grade: K-2 Room (lower level room 234)

2nd & 3rd Grades: 5th Grade Classroom (main level room 390)

4th–6th Grades: Choir Coom (main level room 340)

Contact Cheryl Noel, Kids Choir Director, at cnoel@calvarychurch.org for further information.



C56

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Calvary 56, a place where 5th and 6th grade students will encounter God in new and fresh ways! Here, they explore their own faith, consider how they live it out, delve into God's character and His goodness, and wrestle with ways to glorify Him in their daily lives.

Because of the unique design of Calvary 56 and the many connecting events throughout the year, students have a great opportunity to develop strong relationships with their peers and leaders. Our dedicated team of adult volunteers desires to see our Calvary 56 tweens develop an authentic relationship with the Lord and become resilient followers of Christ.

It is our prayer that our students know that they are created in the image of God and that they belong here. We desire that, through nurturing, they would come to believe in Jesus, give their hearts to Him, and over time, through the process of discipleship and the power of the Holy Spirit, they will be transformed.

It is my pleasure to walk alongside your tween as he or she takes steps of obedience to Christ. I trust that Calvary 56 will be a place where your child will learn, grow in Christ, and develop deep relationships with their peers.



Meg Iseman

Meg Iseman

Director of C56 Ministry

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(717) 560-2341 ext. 922



Overview

A Unique Ministry to Kids in 5th & 6th Grade to...

- challenge kids to **dig into God's Word** for themselves and apply it to their lives.
- prepare kids **spiritually for changes** that adolescence will bring.
- create **smooth transitions** from Calvary Kids to Student Ministries.
- help the students **build strong Christian friendships**.

Parent Involvement

We value your input as parents and invite you to discuss ways we can help your son or daughter transition well into his/her teenage years at Calvary.

"Connecting" Events

a. Game Room (located behind the Calvary 56 hallway)

The game room is open on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 9:30am and on Wednesday evenings from 6:15 to 6:35pm. This is a great time to meet and make friends! Table games and activities are also provided in each classroom.

b. Game Nights

Join your Calvary 56 leaders and friends for three fun-filled nights of games and activities in the gym and gym lobby. Game nights are announced at the beginning of the year with reminders given closer to each date. Permission slips will be sent home in the fall and will be available in the 5th and 6th grade classrooms.

c. Calvary 56 Retreat Day

Join us for a great time of learning and fun at Camp Conquest in Denver, PA, for a one day retreat in October. Details and permission slips will be sent home in the fall.

d. Future Events

We will be adding additional events throughout the year, especially in the summer. As these events are scheduled, we will keep you informed with all the details.

Sundays: 9:30 and 11:00am

Curriculum

Throughout the year, we have a variety of Bible teaching units which encourage and challenge the students to dig deeper into God's Word as they learn to study the Bible, explore the greatness of God, and tackle topics like fear, peer pressure, and sin. They will be challenged to live out their faith and share the gospel with their friends.

Small Groups

We value growing in community with God's people. We believe that students grow best when they are part of a consistent small group. In this setting, they can build meaningful relationships with trusted leaders and peers. Meeting regularly with the same group allows students to discuss how to apply the biblical truths they are learning and encourages them to grow together in their faith.

Your child will be placed in a small group with other boys or girls. Each group is led by either one full-time leader (serving every Sunday) or two part-time leaders (alternating every other week.) These consistent relationships help foster trust, connection, and spiritual growth.

Each Sunday includes both small group time and a large group teaching session. Please plan to arrive no later than 9:30am or 11:00am depending on your service time. Valuable teaching begins right at the start of class, and arriving on time ensures your child gets the most out of their experience.

Diving into Devos!

One of our primary goals in Calvary 56 is to help students develop the habit of spending regular time alone with God through personal devotions. We believe that God speaks through His Word, and we want every student to learn how to listen, reflect, and respond.

We encourage students to set a personal goal of have a purposeful, consistent quiet time each week—time set apart to read the Bible, pray, and seek God's guidance for their lives. Whether it's a few minutes a day or several times a week, it's important to help them build a lifelong habit of connecting with God on their own.

Parents can support this goal by talking with their child about what they are reading, helping them find a quiet space, and modeling time in God's Word at home.

Devotional Readings

Each week, your child will receive a devotional take-home paper that includes short Scripture readings and reflection questions related to Sunday's lesson. These readings are designed to help students apply God's truth to their daily lives and develop the habit of spending time with God during the week.

These resources are simply a tool we provide to support your child's spiritual growth. If your child already has a quiet time routine, or uses a different devotional resource, that's wonderful! Our goal is to encourage regular time with God in whatever works best for your family. Digital versions for the devotional take-home papers can also be found at calvarychurch.org/parenthub.

C56 Discovery Clubs

Wednesday Nights (September-April), 6:30-8:00pm

Focus: Going into God's World

At Calvary 56, we want students to grow in their understanding of God's heart for the world. Through exploring the Bible, learning about other people groups, cultures, and religions, and practicing how to share the gospel, student will begin to see how God can use them—right now—in His plan to reach the world for His Kingdom. Our goal is to help students recognize that missions is a way of life that starts today.

God has called us to **declare our God's glory!**

Curriculum

5th Grade

We “nail down” the **BIG TRUTHS** of the gospel, so that the students learn to identify the **BIG LIES** that many people believe. We introduce the students to the **T.H.U.M.B.** people groups—Tribal, Hindu, Unrelivious/Chinese, Muslim and Buddhist— so that they will know how to use the Bible to share its truth with others who don't worship Jesus. We learn about other cultures through games and activities, and we enjoy guest speakers.

6th Grade

Many of the themes from the previous five years are reviewed and reinforced in new and engaging ways. Students will continue to build on their foundation of biblical truth while exploring deeper topics that challenge them to live out their faith.

Psalm 96:2-5

- 2 Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
- 3 **Declare his glory among the nations,**
his marvelous works among all the peoples!
- 4 For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be feared above all gods.
- 5 For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.



Students will be invited to participate in our *Read Around the World* missions reading incentive program. Through this program, they will be challenged to read a variety of missions-focused books that highlight courageous people of faith who allowed God to use them in powerful ways to declare His glory among the nations. Information about the program will be sent home with your child in October, and participating books will be available in the library throughout the year.

Disability Ministry

Disability Ministry

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Calvary Church. We are happy to welcome your family and provide a support system for your child that matches the unique needs they have related to their disability. We do that in a variety of ways. Inclusion in our typical ministry environment with a buddy is one way to provide that support system. Buddies support students one-on-one for children/students from nursery age through high school. Another way we support children is in our specialized classroom for elementary-aged students called the Conquerors class.

Disability Ministry at Calvary Church has a wonderful group of volunteers—both teens and adults—who are dedicated to supporting your child in the best way possible. Our desire is to see your child grow in their connection to God and to connect with caring adults and new friends. By caring for your child well, we desire to support your involvement at Calvary Church, too. We pray that you and your entire family will find Calvary a place where you can learn, grow, and serve together.

We are delighted to be able to serve families affected by disability at Calvary Church. Please let us know if there are ways we can better facilitate your journey to *pursue life in Christ* here at Calvary Church.



Sandy Robinson

Sandy Robinson
Disability Ministry Director
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Cheyenne Landis

Cheyenne Landis
Disability Ministry Coordinator, Calvary Kids
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Disability Ministry

Additional Information

Getting to Know Your Child

We ask each parent/guardian to fill out a questionnaire to help us glean information about the best way to support your child. We share that information in a confidential manner only with those adults who interact with your child directly. Please be as candid as possible about your child's strengths and needs. Our desire is to find the right level of support needed in the right ministry environment. **There is a place for everyone at Calvary Church.**

Personal Care

Please help your child develop the habit of using the **restroom before he/she enters the classroom**. If your child needs assistance with personal care during the ministry hour, we will work with you to put a plan in place to assure your child's comfort. There may be times that buddies can provide this care and times when a parent's assistance is needed. Please have an extra set of clothing available in your child's bag if this is necessary.

Behavior Plans

We are aware that many children with disabilities have behavior challenges. Our desire is to partner with you to provide the needed support for your child to be successful in our classrooms. Please be candid in sharing your child's struggles, so that we can plan accordingly.

Our desire is for your child to be able to remain with their peers in order to hear God's Word and have it impact their lives. At times, behavior challenges necessitate that a child takes a "break" from the classroom for a short time. If a child's behavior cannot be supported adequately in these ways, or if there is a risk of harm to the child or other children, we will contact the parent/guardian to help. Our goal is always to find a way for the child to rejoin the classroom environment.

Disability Ministry

Inclusion with Buddies and Mentors

Buddies are utilized to support inclusion of children from nursery age through elementary school in their typical ministry environment. The Buddy team consists of the Disability Ministry Coordinator, parent/guardian, the child, and his/her “buddies.” The team works together to develop a plan for inclusion in the age and ability-appropriate ministry environment. Buddies walk alongside your child, one-on-one, giving support at the level needed to help your child participate, learn, grow and serve along with their peers. We aim to support families affected by disability by providing a way for every family member to worship, knowing their child with special needs is being well cared for. Inclusion with buddy support is available on Sunday mornings and during other ministry hours/days as volunteers are available. Please contact the Disability Ministry Coordinator for specific information about supports options available.

Mentors are also available for students in our middle and high school environments. Mentors provide support on a one-on-one basis if needed, but more often function as a coach or mentor. We will support students on Sunday mornings and, as volunteers are available, for Student Groups and other Student Ministry activities.



Disability Ministry

Conquerors Class

Conquerors class is our specialized classroom for elementary-aged children and is open during our 9:30 & 11:00am hours on Sunday mornings. Children who are not able to remain in their typical ministry environment for the entire hour can utilize our Conquerors classroom. Each week, a specially-designed Bible lesson is prepared that includes a Bible story, songs, craft, and sensory activity that relate to the Bible lesson for the day. Students and their buddies have the flexibility to work through these activities at their own pace, either individually or with the group.



Support Groups

We offer monthly groups that focus on fellowship, support, and biblical encouragement for moms and dads who have a child with disability. Two different groups for moms meet monthly on either Wednesday evening or Thursday morning. Dads meet monthly on Tuesday evenings.

Family Events

We host a yearly fall picnic for all families and individuals who are impacted by disability at Calvary. Other events throughout the year include parent nights and sibling events. We also strive to make all church events accessible and inclusive by providing support for families to attend as needed.

The background is a vibrant orange-to-yellow gradient. In the top left, there is a blue abstract shape with a white zigzag line and a circle of blue diagonal stripes. In the top right, there is a yellow abstract shape with a grid of white dots. In the bottom left, there is a red abstract shape with a circle of red diagonal stripes. In the bottom right, there is a purple abstract shape. The text 'Calvary Kids!' is centered in a bold, white, playful font with a green outline. Below the text is a yellow zigzag line.

Calvary Kids!

Last Updated July 2026